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Flooded Iowa communities surviving with trucked-in water

By DAVID PITT
Associated Press
DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — As some communities along the Missouri River start to shift their focus to flood recovery after a late-winter storm, residents in two Iowa cities are stuck in crisis mode after their treatment plants shut down and left them in need of fresh water. Tanker trucks from the Iowa National Guard and a private company are hauling water into Hamburg and Glenwood, said Lucinda Parker, a spokeswoman with Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management.



Continued on Page 3

The cab of a pickup truck peeks out of floodwaters Wednesday, March 20, 2019, in Hamburg, Iowa.

Associated Press

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Pentagon to probe if Shanahan used office to help Boeing

By **LOLITA C. BALDOR**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon's inspector general has formally opened an investigation into a watchdog group's allegations that acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan has used his office to promote his former employer, Boeing Co. Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington filed an ethics complaint with the Pentagon's inspector general a week ago, alleging that Shanahan has appeared to make



Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan speaks at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, Wednesday, March 20, 2019.

Associated Press

statements promoting Boeing and disparaging competitors, such as Lockheed Martin.

Shanahan, who was traveling with President Donald Trump to Ohio on Wednesday, spent more than 30 years at Boeing, leading programs for commercial planes and missile defense systems. He has been serving as acting Pentagon chief since the beginning of the year, after James Mattis stepped down.

The probe comes as Boeing struggles to deal with a public firestorm over two deadly crashes of the Boeing 737 Max 8 jetliner within the last five months. And it focuses attention on whether Trump will nominate Shanahan as his formal pick for defense chief, rather than letting him languish as an acting leader of a major federal agency. Dwrena Allen, spokeswoman for the inspector general, said Shanahan has been informed of the investigation. And, in a statement, Pentagon spokesman Tom Crosson said Shanahan welcomes the review.

"Acting Secretary Shanahan has at all times remained committed to upholding his ethics agreement filed with the DoD," said Crosson. "This agreement ensures any matters pertaining to Boeing are handled by appropriate officials within the Pentagon to eliminate any perceived or actual conflict of interest issue(s) with Boeing."

During a Senate hearing last week, Shanahan was asked by U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn.,

about the 737 Max issue. Shanahan said he had not spoken to anyone in the administration about it and had not been briefed on it. Asked whether he favored an investigation into the matter, Shanahan said it was for regulators to investigate.

On Wednesday, Blumenthal said that scrutiny of Shanahan's Boeing ties is necessary. "In fact, it's overdue. Boeing is a behemoth 800-pound gorilla — raising possible questions of undue influence at DOD, FAA and elsewhere," said Blumenthal.

Shanahan signed an ethics agreement in June 2017, when he was being nominated for the job of deputy defense secretary, a job he held during Mattis' tenure. It outlined the steps he would take to avoid "any actual or apparent conflict of interest," and said he would not participate in any matter involving Boeing. The CREW ethics complaint, based to a large part on published reports, including one by Politico in January, said Shanahan has made comments praising Boeing in meetings about government contracts, raising concerns about "whether Shanahan, intentionally or not, is putting his finger on the scale when it comes to Pentagon priorities."

One example raised by the complaint is the Pentagon's decision to request funding for Boeing 15EX fighter jets in the 2020 proposed budget. The Pentagon is requesting about \$1 billion to buy eight of the aircraft. □



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Flooded Iowa communities surviving with trucked-in water

Continued from Front

Many evacuated from flooded areas in the southwestern part of the state are staying in shelters or with family and friends in the wake of the flooding and water struggles it has caused.

Trucks are hauling about 300,000 gallons (1.1 million liters) per day to Glenwood's water treatment plant from the neighboring cities of Red Oak and Shenandoah, according to the state Department of Natural Resources. Grocery store chains Hy-Vee and Fareway also have provided truckloads of bottled water.

Mike Wells, superintendent of the Hamburg Community School District, said one of the biggest concerns about having no fresh water is staying clean. The school district has coordinated providing buses for residents to ride 25 miles (40 kilometers) to Shenandoah or 10 miles (16 kilometers) to Sidney to shower. A local ministerial society has been picking up residents' laundry at the school district, taking it to Shenandoah to wash it, and returning it.

"These are the best people. There's no despair. There's no giving up," Wells said.

He said school would resume Thursday because it's important for children to get back into their routine. He said the first half of the school day will be regular classes, but in the afternoon students will help collect laundry, deliver water, check on older residents and help provide food to

those who need meals.

"This is a great opportunity to learn real life," Wells said. The surging waters have damaged hundreds of homes in the Midwest and been blamed for at least three deaths — two in Nebraska and one in Iowa. The flooding led to trains being halted in Missouri, creating transportation problems for both people and products. It also has taken a heavy toll on agriculture, inundating tens of thousands of acres, threatening stockpiled grain and killing livestock.

Scientists say climate change is responsible for more intense and more frequent extreme weather such as storms, floods, droughts and fires, but without extensive study they cannot directly link a single weather event to the changing climate.

Flooding hit Hamburg and Glenwood, which combined have about 6,000 residents, after the storm. Hamburg evacuated over the weekend. So did a portion of Mills County near Glenwood. Officials said the communities' water supplies became compromised. Water quality suffers during flooding even for areas not directly affected by floodwater. In Des Moines — which gets its water from two rivers that are flooding, though not as much as the Missouri River — levels of ammonia and other contaminants rise during floods. That may require increased use of chlorine to disinfect the water "and a careful balancing act not to overtreat," said Water

Works CEO Bill Stowe.

The water utility that serves about 500,000 central Iowa customers also at times deals with high levels of nitrate from farm fertilizer runoff, but the volume of water has diluted that impact and isn't currently a concern, Stowe said.

National Weather Service hydrologist Kevin Low said during a telephone briefing Wednesday that "major and perhaps historic" flooding is possible later this month at some spots on the Big Sioux and James rivers in South Dakota and northwestern Iowa. □



Treyton Gubser, left, and his uncle Daniel Gubser paddle using shovels through the floodwaters after they rescued Daniel's kid's cat, Bob Wednesday, March 20, 2019, in Hamburg, Iowa.

Associated Press

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Trump aims new blasts at McCain, claims credit for funeral

By **LAURIE KELLMAN**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Casting aside rare censure from Republican lawmakers, President Donald Trump aimed new blasts of invective at the late John McCain Wednesday, even claiming credit for the senator's moving Washington funeral and complaining he was never properly thanked.

By the time the president began his anti-McCain tirade in Ohio, several leading Republicans had signaled a new willingness to defy Trump by defending the Vietnam War veteran as a hero seven months after he died of brain cancer. One GOP senator called Trump's remarks "deplorable."

Trump then launched a lengthy rant in which he claimed without citing evidence that McCain had pushed for a war and failed America's veterans.

"I gave him the kind of funeral that he wanted," Trump told reporters at a campaign-style rally in Lima, Ohio. "I didn't get (a) thank you but that's OK."

In fact, McCain's family made clear that Trump was not welcome during the week-long, cross-country ceremonies that the senator had planned himself. Instead, McCain invited former Presidents George W. Bush, who defeated McCain during the 2000 GOP nomination fight, and Barack Obama, who defeated him in 2008, to deliver eulogies on the value of pursuing goals greater than oneself. Trump signed off on the military transport of McCain's body, went golfing and was uncharacteristically quiet on Twitter during the Washington events. Trump's publicly nursed grudge against McCain



In this Nov. 3, 2008 file photo, Republican presidential candidate Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz. speaks at a rally outside Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, Fla.

has not appeared to alienate core supporters, some of whom had soured on the senator by the time of his death. Aware of this, GOP lawmakers until now have stayed subdued or silent though Trump sometimes infuriated them with his comments on their late colleague.

McCain's allies suggested it was time for that to change.

"I hope (Trump's) indecency to John's memory and to the McCain family will convince more officeholders that they can't ignore the damage Trump is doing to politics and to the country's well-being or remain silent despite their concerns," said Mark Salter, McCain's biographer. "They must speak up."

Trump has said for years that he doesn't think McCain is a hero because the senator was captured in Vietnam. McCain was tortured and held prisoner for more than five years.

The president has never

served in the military and obtained a series of deferments to avoid going to Vietnam, including one attained with a physician's letter stating that he suffered from bone spurs in his feet.

One McCain Senate vote in particular is the thumbs-down Trump can't seem to forget. The Arizona senator in 2017 sank the GOP effort to repeal Obama's health care law. Trump was furious, and it showed even in the days after McCain's death last August. The administration lowered the American flag over the White House to half-staff when McCain died on a Saturday, but then raised it by Monday. After public outcry, the White House flags were again lowered. This week, Trump unloaded a new series of anti-McCain tweets in which he said he never had been "a fan" and never would be. His relentless new targeting of the deceased senator seemed to cross a bound-

ary for several Republicans. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell called McCain "a rare patriot and genuine American hero in the Senate." McConnell tweeted, "His memory continues to remind me every day that our nation is sustained by the sacrifices of heroes."

The Kentucky Republican, who is up for re-election next year, never mentioned Trump, but others weren't so shy.

Sen. Johnny Isakson of Georgia said not only the McCain family but the nation "deserves better" than Trump's disparagement.

"I don't care if he's president of the United States, owns all the real estate in New York, or is building the greatest immigration system in the world," Isakson told *The Bulwark*, a conservative news and opinion website. Later, Isakson called Trump's remarks "deplorable."

"It will (be) deplorable seven months from now if

he says it again," Isakson continued in remarks on Georgia Public Broadcasting's Political Rewind radio show, "and I will continue to speak out."

Utah Sen. Mitt Romney, the GOP's 2012 presidential nominee whom Trump briefly considered nominating as secretary of state, tweeted praise for McCain on Tuesday — and criticism of Trump.

"I can't understand why the President would, once again, disparage a man as exemplary as my friend John McCain: heroic, courageous, patriotic, honorable, self-effacing, self-sacrificing, empathetic, and driven by duty to family, country, and God," Romney wrote.

Pushback also came from Sen. Martha McSally, a Republican Air Force veteran appointed to McCain's seat from Arizona.

"John McCain is an American hero and I am thankful for his life of service and legacy to our country and Arizona," she tweeted Wednesday. "Everyone should give him and his family the respect, admiration, and peace they deserve."

That McSally declined to criticize Trump directly reflected the broader wariness among Republicans to cross a president famous for mobilizing his followers against GOP lawmakers he deems disloyal. But this week, Trump seemed to inspire a new determination among some to draw a line, however delicately. Sen. Lindsey Graham, who wept openly on the Senate floor after McCain died but has allied himself strongly with Trump, said, "I think the president's comments about Sen. McCain hurt him more than they hurt the legacy of Sen. McCain." □

Bid to strip Confederate link from Arkansas flag fails again

By ANDREW DeMILLO
Associated Press

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP)—An Arkansas House panel on Wednesday rejected for a second time a proposal to change the meaning of a star on the state's flag that represents the Confederacy, despite an endorsement from the Republican governor.

The proposal was not to change the design of Arkansas' flag, but to remove language that describes a blue star above Arkansas' name on the flag as representing the Confederate States of America. Instead, that star would represent the United States of America and a blue star currently representing the U.S. would represent Native American nations.

The House State Agencies and Governmental Affairs Committee rejected the proposal by a 10-5 vote. The panel rejected another version of the proposal last month.

Republican Gov. Asa Hutchinson has endorsed the change, calling it the right thing to do. Democratic Rep. Charles Blake, the bill's sponsor, said he hasn't ruled out bringing up the proposal again and said it's also possible a similar proposal could be filed in the Senate.

"Our state flag is the largest and most prevalent symbol we can put out to the world," Blake, who is black, told the committee. "That symbol should be an inclusive symbol. That symbol should be the Arkansas we all want to be going forward."

The other two blue stars on Arkansas' flag represent France and Spain. The fourth star representing the Confederacy was added in 1923 and a year later it was placed above the state's name on the flag. Blake has said that change came at the height of the Ku Klux Klan's rise in Arkansas and other Southern states, and can be viewed as a symbol of white supremacy.

Opponents called the pro-



In this Feb. 1, 2011 file photo, an American and Arkansas flag blow in the wind as snow falls in Fayetteville, Ark.

posal an effort to erase the state's Confederate history and questioned why the Native American nations should be commemorated on the flag. One opponent, Robert Freeman of Hot Springs, said the Native American tribes that would be commemorated were "vicious, murdering savages."

"Is there even one among this committee who wishes to commemorate a star on our state flag to a people

who contributed actually nothing to our civil service, nor our court system, nor the formation of the state's counties and law enforcement agencies, nor the educational systems, either in Little Rock or the county seats?" Freeman said.

Hutchinson underlined his support for the measure Wednesday afternoon.

"I continue to support this legislation, and I am certain it will come back up for debate in future legislative

sessions," he said in a statement. "My hope is that someday we can have a flag with symbolism that unites the whole state."

The committee's only four Democrats and one Republican voted for the bill, while all the votes against the measure came from Republicans.

said Republican Les Warren, who voted against the measure. Hours after the bill failed, another Republican who voted against the measure filed new legislation that would remove the language in state law explaining what the flag's stars represent.

The vote occurred two years after Hutchinson signed into law legislation he'd backed to remove Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee from the state holiday honoring civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. That proposal had failed repeatedly before a House committee in the 2015 session and Hutchinson made it part of his legislative agenda two years later. □

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Harvard profits from early photos of slaves, lawsuit says

By **COLLIN BINKLEY**
AP Education Writer

BOSTON (AP) — Harvard University has “shamelessly” turned a profit from photos of two 19th-century slaves while ignoring requests to turn the photos over to the slaves’ descendants, according to a lawsuit filed Wednesday.

Tamara Lanier, of Norwich, Connecticut, is suing the Ivy League school for “wrongful seizure, possession and expropriation” of images she says depict two of her ancestors. Her suit, filed in Massachusetts state court, demands that Harvard immediately turn over the photos, acknowledge her ancestry and pay an unspecified sum in damages. Harvard spokesman Jonathan Swain said the university “has not yet been served, and with that is in no position to comment on this complaint.”

At the center of the case is a series of 1850 daguerreotypes, an early type of photo, taken of two South Carolina slaves identified as Renty and his daughter, Delia. Both were posed shirtless and photographed from several angles. The images are believed to be the earliest known photos of American slaves. They were commissioned by Harvard biologist Louis



In this July 17, 2018, photo, Tamara Lanier holds an 1850 photograph of Renty, a South Carolina slave who Lanier said is her family’s patriarch, at her home in Norwich, Conn.

Associated Press



Agassiz, whose theories on racial difference were used to support slavery in the U.S. The lawsuit says Agassiz came across Renty and Delia while touring planta-

tions in search of racially “pure” slaves born in Africa. “To Agassiz, Renty and Delia were nothing more than research specimens,” the suit says. “The violence of compelling them to participate in a degrading exercise designed to prove their own subhuman status would not have occurred to him, let alone mattered.” The suit attacks Harvard for its “exploitation” of Renty’s image at a 2017 conference and in other uses. It says Harvard has capital-

ized on the photos by demanding a “hefty” licensing fee to reproduce the images. It also draws attention to a book Harvard sells for \$40 with Renty’s portrait on the cover. The book, called “From Site to Sight: Anthropology, Photography, and the Power of Imagery,” explores the use of photography in anthropology.

Among other demands, the suit asks Harvard to acknowledge that it bears responsibility for the humili-

ation of Renty and Delia and that Harvard “was complicit in perpetuating and justifying the institution of slavery.”

A researcher at a Harvard museum rediscovered the photos in storage in 1976. But Lanier’s case argues Agassiz never legally owned the photos because he didn’t have his subjects’ consent and that he didn’t have the right to pass them to Harvard. Instead, the suit says, Lanier is the rightful owner as Renty’s next of kin.

The suit also argues that Harvard’s continued possession of the images violates the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery.

“Renty is 169 years a slave by our calculation,” civil rights attorney Benjamin Crump, one of Lanier’s lawyers, said in an interview. “How long will it be before Harvard finally frees Renty?”

Lanier says she grew up hearing stories about Renty passed down from her mother. While enslaved in Columbia, South Carolina, Renty taught himself to read and later held secret Bible readings on the plantation, the suit says. He is described as “small in stature but towering in the minds of those who knew him.” □

Washington state deputy shot and killed by road rage suspect

NICHOLAS K. GERANIOS
Associated Press

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — A sheriff’s deputy was killed in central Washington state and a police officer was shot and wounded after they exchanged gunfire with a road rage driving suspect, authorities said Wednesday.

The events unfolded Tuesday evening when the two officers tried to stop the suspect’s vehicle after authorities received a complaint about the motorist’s driving, said Ellensburg Police Chief Ken Wade.

The suspect, who has not been identified, was chased by police until the driver stopped the car near the town of Kittitas. He got



The body of a Kittitas County Sheriff’s deputy is draped with a U.S. flag as it is carried out of Kittitas Valley Healthcare Hospital in the early morning hours of Wednesday, March 20, 2019, in Ellensburg, Wash.

Associated Press

out and exchanged gunfire with the sheriff’s deputy and the police officer, Wade said.

“It was reported as a road-rage type event, with erratic driving on the part of the suspect,” said Wade, whose office is investigating the incident.

Sheriff’s deputy Ryan Thompson, 42, was killed and Kittitas police officer Benito Chavez, 22, was shot in the leg and suffered a shattered femur, Wade said. The suspect died at a hospital and Wade said authorities were still trying to identify him. Authorities did not provide information about how many times he was shot and Wade said he did not know how many

shots were fired overall by the officers and the suspect. Thompson had been a law enforcement officer for years, joined the sheriff’s department in 2013 and is survived by his wife and three children, said Kittitas County Sheriff Gene Dana. “Our community has a very heavy heart today,” Dana told reporters. “This officer was a great officer.”

It was the first fatal shooting of a law enforcement officer in the rural county in 92 years, he said. Wade said authorities have no other information besides the road rage incident for what might have prompted the suspect to flee and exchange gunfire with the officers. □

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National Guard to help protect California towns from fires

By DON THOMPSON

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)

— California is calling in the National Guard for the first time next month to help protect communities from devastating fires like the one that largely destroyed the city of Paradise last fall. It's pulling the troops away from President Donald Trump's border protection efforts and devoting them to fire protection, another area where Trump has been critical of California's Democratic officials — even repeatedly threatening to cut off federal disaster funding.

Starting next week, 110 California National Guard troops will receive 11 days of training in using shovels, rakes and chain saws to help thin trees and brush, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection spokesman Mike Mohler said.

They will be divided into five teams that will travel around the state starting in April to work on forest management projects, mainly



In this June 12, 2018 file photo, firefighters clear burned and unburned brush from a hillside above Portola Drive after a wildfire broke out in the Benedict Canyon area of Los Angeles.

Associated Press

clearing or reducing trees and vegetation in an effort to deprive flames of fuel.

"They will be boots on the ground doing fuels projects alongside CalFire crews," Mohler said. "We've had them out for flood fighting, several different operations, but this would be the first time their mission would be fuels thinning and forest management."

They have helped fight fires before, however.

Former Gov. Arnold

Schwarzenegger was the first in recent decades to deploy California National Guard troops as firefighters. That occurred on July 4, 2008, after lightning storms sparked hundreds of fires, Guard Lt. Col. Jonathan Shiroma said.

While many of the troops are being reassigned from the border this time, the Guard also is asking other service members if they want to participate, Shiroma said.

The training is similar for fire-fighting and fire protection. Mohler said the troops also will receive some training in forest management, "so they're not just out there cutting brush" but understand why they're doing what they're doing.

For instance, firefighting crews generally cut fire lines down to mineral earth during active wildfires, while fuels management crews often do less-intensive thinning of trees and chaparral to slow advancing flames. That often involves creating fuel breaks. They can range from stripping away all woody vegetation on wide strips of land to thinning larger trees and removing shorter trees, brush and debris to discourage fires from climbing into tree-tops and jumping from tree to tree. Critics say the work damages forests and can be useless against wind-driven fires, like the one that jumped a river to rain

embers on the Sierra Nevada foothills community of Paradise last year, killing 85 people in and around the Northern California city of 27,000 people.

"CalFire is taking the Trump approach, logging the forest and weakening critical environmental protections, and that's the exact opposite of what we need to be doing," Center for Biological Diversity scientist Shaye Wolf said. She said the better approach is to make homes more fire resistant while pruning vegetation immediately surrounding homes. CalFire this month listed 35 fuel-reduction projects it wants to start immediately, covering more than 140 square miles (362 square kilometers) — double the acreage in previous years. But state officials estimate 23,438 square miles (60,704 square kilometers) of California forestland need thinning or other restoration. □

Judge: Tootsie Mini Pops packaging too similar to Dum Dums'

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP) — A federal judge is siding with the makers of Dum Dums lollipops in its lawsuit against a rival candy maker.

Ohio-based Spangler Candy Co. is suing Tootsie Roll Industries because it says the Chicago-based company's new Charms Mini Pops packaging too closely resembles the Dum Dums packaging.

A preliminary injunction handed down in Ohio says Tootsie Roll must at least temporarily stop using its packaging for Mini Pops.

Tootsie Roll has disputed Spangler's claims. A message seeking comment was left Wednesday with Tootsie Roll.

The judge said in a decision issued last week that the Tootsie Roll is using packaging nearly identical to the Dum Dums packaging, right down to a red bag with white lettering.

The Blade reports Spangler believes the packaging is so similar that customers would easily confuse the two products. □

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UK's May asks a wary EU to delay Brexit until June 30

By JILL LAWLESS
LORNE COOK
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Exactly 1,000 days after Britain voted to leave the European Union, and nine days before it is scheduled to walk out the door, Prime Minister Theresa May hit the pause button Wednesday, asking the bloc to postpone the U.K.'s departure until June 30.

EU leaders, who are exasperated by Britain's Brexit melodrama, will only grant the extension if May can win the U.K. Parliament's approval next week for her twice-rejected Brexit deal. Otherwise, the U.K. is facing a chaotic "no-deal" departure from the bloc within days, or a much longer delay that May says she will not allow while she is in power.

May, who has spent two and a half years trying to lead Britain out of the EU, said it was "a matter of great personal regret" that she had to seek a delay to Brexit.

In a televised statement from 10 Downing St., May said she shared the frustration felt by many Britons who have "had enough" of endless Brexit debates and infighting — though she did not accept a role in causing it. Instead, she blamed Parliament for the deadlock, and warned that if lawmakers did not back her deal it would cause "irreparable damage to public trust."

"It is high time we made a decision," May said.

In a letter to European Council President Donald Tusk, May acknowledged that the Brexit process "clearly will not be completed before 29 March, 2019" — the date fixed in law two years ago for Britain's departure.

May asked to delay Britain's withdrawal until June 30, and said she would set out her reasons to EU leaders at a summit in Brussels on Thursday.

Her longshot plan is to hold a third vote in Parliament on her deal next week, then use the EU-granted extension to pass the legis-



Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May delivers a statement, at 10 Downing Street, in London, Wednesday, March 20, 2019.

lation needed for an orderly departure from the EU. "As prime minister I am not prepared to delay Brexit any further than June 30," May told the House of Commons — a hint she could quit if Britain is forced to accept a longer pause. Tusk said he thought a short delay to Brexit "will be possible, but it would be conditional on a positive vote on the withdrawal agreement in the House of Commons." May's request — and Tusk's response — leaves Britain and the bloc facing Brexit uncertainty right up to the deadline for departure. Withdrawing without a deal could mean huge disruptions for businesses and U.K. residents, as well as those in the 27 remaining EU countries.

"Even if the hope for a final success may seem frail, even illusory, and although Brexit fatigue is increasingly visible and justified, we cannot give up seeking until the very last moment a positive solution," Tusk said in Brussels.

Tusk made clear what other EU leaders have long hinted: The EU is unwilling to give Britain more time unless the government can find a way out of the Brexit impasse.

German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas said that "if the (EU) Council is to decide on extending the deadline for Britain, then we would like to know: Why, why, why?" French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said a delay could only be granted if May guaranteed that its purpose "is to finalize the ratification of the deal already negotiated."

EU leaders are united in saying that the divorce deal it spent more than a year and a half negotiating with Britain can't be renegotiated.

But the deal has twice been rejected twice by hefty margins in Britain's Parliament, amid opposition from pro-Brexit and pro-EU lawmakers. May had planned to try again this week to get the agreement approved, until

the speaker of the House of Commons ruled that she can't ask Parliament to vote on the deal again unless it is substantially changed.

May told Tusk that despite the ruling "it remains my intention to bring the deal back to the House." She's likely to do that next week — within days or hours of Britain's scheduled departure — by arguing that circumstances have changed and the speaker's bar on a third vote no longer applied.

But she faces a struggle to overturn the huge margins of defeat for her deal in previous votes in January and last week.

Tusk did not say whether the EU would be willing to grant a long delay to Brexit if Britain changed course and abandoned May's deal for a new approach. British opposition politicians, and pro-EU members of May's Conservative government, have urged a longer extension, saying a delay of just a few months

could leave the country once again facing a no-deal Brexit this summer.

They want to commit to a close post-Brexit economic relationship with the bloc to ease disruption for businesses and citizens.

Opposition Labour Party lawmaker Angela Eagle said May should "stop banging her head against the brick wall of her defeated deal" and seek cross-party support for a new Brexit strategy.

But a shift to "soft Brexit" would infuriate the pro-Brexit wing of May's divided party, and a long delay would require Britain to participate in May 23-26 elections for the European Parliament.

May said postponing Brexit beyond June would result in Parliament spending "endless hours contemplating its navel on Brexit."

Any delay that required Britain to take part in European parliamentary elections would be a major headache for the bloc. Britain's seats already have been allocated to other countries to fill in the May election.

Britain believes it would not have to participate if it got a three-month delay, because the newly elected European parliament is not due to convene until July. Some EU officials take a different view and want any extension to end by May 23, the first day of the European elections.

The Brexit-fueled political chaos has drawn reactions ranging from sympathy to scorn at home and around the world. On its front page Wednesday, the Brexit-backing Daily Mail newspaper bemoaned the time since the referendum as "1,000 lost days."

Juncker said Britain's Parliament needed to decide whether it would approve the only deal that is on the table.

"If that doesn't happen, and if Great Britain does not leave at the end of March, then we are, I am sorry to say, in the hands of God," he said. "And I think even God sometimes reaches a limit to his patience." □

Italy: Bus driver abducts 51 children, sets vehicle on fire

By COLLEEN BARRY
Associated Press

MILAN (AP) — A bus driver in northern Italy abducted 51 children and their school chaperones Wednesday, threatening the hostages' lives for 40 minutes and setting the bus on fire at a Carabinieri blockade.

Officers from the national police force broke windows at the back of the bus to reach the passengers and got all of them out without serious injuries before flames destroyed the vehicle, authorities said.

The driver was apprehended and treated for burns. Prosecutors described him as a 47-year-old Italian citizen of Senegalese origin and said he told authorities he wanted to vindicate Europe-bound migrants who have died in the Mediterranean Sea but did not plan to hurt anyone.

However, prosecutors said the suspect, identified as Ousseynou Sy, made preparations that showed his actions were premeditated, such as buying a canister of gasoline and restraints on Tuesday.

He also sent a video to friends in Italy and Senegal indicating plans for a bold



Firefighters and police officers stand by the gutted remains of a bus in San Donato Milanese, near Milan, Italy, March 21, 2019.

action and with the message, "Africa, Rise up," they said.

Sy was being investigated on suspicion of kidnapping, intention to commit a massacre, arson and resisting law enforcement, with terrorism as an aggravating circumstance since the event caused panic. Prosecutors said they have found no evidence of Islamic radicalization or ties

to extremists, saying it appeared the bus driver acted alone.

Chief prosecutor Francesco Greco praised the Carabinieri for moving swiftly to block the bus and remove the children.

"They carried out an operation that we see in films with special agents," Greco said.

"Thank goodness, because by then the intent to mas-

sacre had ignited, and the man was starting to set fire to the bus, as he did," he said.

Milan's provincial Carabinieri commander, Luca De Marchis, told broadcaster Sky TG24 that the bus was ferrying two middle-school classes between school and a nearby gym in Cremona province, some 40 kilometers (25 miles) from Milan.

Associated Press

The driver threatened the passengers, telling them "no one would survive today" as he commanded the bus, De Marchis said.

Italian news agency ANSA quoted one of the students as saying the driver everyone's phones and ordered the chaperones to bind the students' hands with cable ties, threatening to spill gas and set the bus ablaze. ANSA said the chaperones only loosely bound several students' hands with the zip ties, not everyone's.

One of the middle school students described his terror in an interview with La Repubblica TV, his face obscured due to his age. His name was not given.

"We were all very afraid because the driver had emptied the gas canister onto the floor (of the bus.) He tied us up and took all the telephones so we could not call the police," the student said.

"One of the telephones, belonging to a classmate, fell to the ground, so I pulled off the handcuffs, hurting myself a bit, and went and picked it up. We called the Carabinieri and the police." □

Exit poll has populist party in the Netherlands making gains

By MIKE CORDER
Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — A right-wing populist party in the Netherlands emerged from provincial elections that also determine the makeup of the national Senate positioned for a big win, according to exit poll released late Wednesday.

The elections held Wednesday were for 570 legislators in provincial governments. The winners, in turn, will elect the members of the Dutch parliament's upper house in May.

Results from an IPSOS exit poll published by national broadcaster NOS showed the euroskeptic, anti-immigration Forum for Democracy party winning 10 seats after fielding candidates in provincial races for the first



Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte, right, and Justice Minister Ferd Grapperhaus arrive at a makeshift memorial for victims of a shooting incident in a tram in Utrecht, Netherlands, Tuesday, March 19, 2019.

Associated Press

time. Prime Minister Mark Rutte's People's Party for Freedom and Democra-

cy dropped from 13 to 12 seats, the poll found. The Forum for Democracy,

led by flamboyant populist Thierry Baudet, 36, is battling the People's Party for Freedom and Democracy to become the biggest party in the national Senate. The IPSOS poll had a one-seat margin of error.

"What a day," said Theo Hiddema, who serves with Baudet as one of the two Forum lawmakers in the lower house of the national parliament. "Tomorrow you will wake up to a new spring, a new sound."

The exit poll showed Rutte's four-party coalition losing its majority in the Senate, meaning he would have to seek support from opposition parties to push through legislation.

Baudet's success came at the expense of major parties, but he also took votes from a rival populist party.

The Party for Freedom of anti-Islam firebrand Geert Wilders, which was forecast to drop from nine seats to six.

Wilders called it "a limited loss" and added, "Of course, we would have wanted more."

The voting came just days after a shooter opened fire on a tram in the central city of Utrecht, killing three passengers and seriously wounding three more. Police have arrested a 37-year-old man of Turkish descent and said they were investigating a possible extremist motive.

While major political parties halted campaigning in the aftermath of the shootings, Baudet blamed years of what he called failing immigration policies for the attack. □

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3 years on, what's become of the EU-Turkey migration deal?

By **ELENA BECATOROS**
Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — In March 2016, European governments breathed a sigh of relief as the European Union reached a deal with Turkey designed to stop hundreds of thousands of refugees and migrants heading into the heart of Europe. For many of those who had fled war, hunger and poverty hoping for a bright future on the continent, the deal shattered their dreams.

Three years on, here is a look back at the agreement and the effect it's had on migration.

WHAT DID THE EU-TURKEY DEAL SAY?

One of the main provisions of the deal, which came into effect on March 20, 2016, was that all those arriving on Greek islands from the nearby Turkish coast — the preferred route at the time — would be detained and returned to Turkey unless they successfully applied for asylum in Greece. They wouldn't be able to move on to the Greek mainland, from where hundreds of thousands before them had made their way through the Balkans and on to central and northern Europe.

However, the deportations didn't go as planned. Instead of waiting to apply for asylum in their preferred European country, new arrivals applied as soon as they arrived on the islands, which delayed deportations and created a massive backlog in Greece's asylum system. In practice, actual deportations have been very few and far between.



In this Friday, May 4, 2018 file photo, migrants and refugees wait outside the European Asylum Support Service offices inside the camp of Moria on the northeastern Aegean island of Lesbos, Greece.

DID THE AGREEMENT WORK?

On a very basic level of reducing the number of asylum-seekers heading to other European countries, the deal was very effective. More than 1.2 million people registered for asylum in EU member states in 2015 and again in 2016, at the height of the crisis. That number fell by half the following year, with just over 654,000 new asylum applications in 2017 and even fewer — just over 580,000 — in 2018, according to the EU's statistics office Eurostat. Germany continues to be the most popular country for those seeking refugee status, followed by France and Greece. The main countries of origin of the applicants are Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq. But the reduction in numbers has come at a cost. Aid groups have repeatedly slammed the deal as

inhumane, noting it has left thousands stranded in miserable conditions. On the eve of its third anniversary, 25 human rights, medical aid and volunteer groups signed an open letter calling on European leaders "to take immediate and sustained action to end the unfair and unnecessary containment policy."

It has also not completely stopped arrivals on Greek islands, although the numbers are far lower than the thousands per day in 2015 and early 2016.

WHAT IS THE SITUATION ON THE ISLANDS?

The stipulation of new arrivals being held on the islands has left thousands languishing in cramped camps. Samos island has seen the worst overcrowding, with around 4,000 people vying for space in a camp with a capacity of 648. The largest camp in the eastern Ae-

gean, Moria on the island of Lesbos which holds more than 4,800 people in facilities designed for 3,100, has come under the severest criticism from rights groups and even local officials over poor living and security conditions.

Greek authorities note that the terms of the EU-Turkey agreement prevent them from moving people off the islands en masse. Instead, they have tried to ease overcrowding by sending to the mainland those designated as vulnerable — such as the sick or very elderly, families with young children or single parent families. But with dozens, sometimes hundreds, arriving each week, that hasn't been enough to definitively deal with the problem. As of Monday night, a total of 14,742 people were being held on the islands, most of them on Lesbos, Samos,

Chios, Leros and Kos. "Greece has become a dumping ground for the men, women and children that the European Union has failed to protect," Emmanuel Goue of the Doctors Without Borders medical aid group said in a statement on the third anniversary of the EU-Turkey deal. "What was once touted as a 'refugee emergency' has given way to inexcusable levels of human suffering across the Greek islands and on mainland Greece," Goue said. "The EU and Greek authorities continue to rob vulnerable people of their dignity and health, seemingly in an effort to deter others from coming. This policy is cruel, inhumane and cynical, and it needs to end."

WHAT ABOUT THE REST OF EUROPE?

The increased difficulty heading into Europe from the Greek islands meant migrants and refugees soon sought out alternative routes to get into the EU. With more than 57,000 unauthorized arrivals by sea in 2018, Spain became the No. 1 route to the EU by sea. The figure was more than double the number of arrivals in 2017 at 21,000. NGOs and the Spanish government itself blamed the increase on the EU-Turkey deal and on later agreements with Libya which essentially shut down the central Mediterranean route which had seen boats head from Libya to Italy. There has, however, been a sharp decrease in the number of arrivals by sea in Spain in late 2018 and the first three months of this year. □



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Philippines seizes drugs in upscale area, arrests 4 Chinese

By JIM GOMEZ

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) —

Philippine authorities said Wednesday that they have seized methamphetamine concealed in tea wrappers and biscuit cans in their second-largest drug haul this year in a sign of how the problem has persisted despite the president's bloody anti-drug crackdown.

Three Chinese nationals and a Chinese-Filipino interpreter were arrested late Tuesday in "buy-bust" raids in an upscale residential enclave and outside a shopping mall in Alabang village in the Manila metropolis, said Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency chief Aaron Aquino.

The drugs, with a street value of 1.1 billion pesos (\$20.7 million), were concealed similarly to seizures in Malaysia, Thailand and Myanmar, indicating an international drug syndicate was behind the trafficking, Aquino said.

Last month, anti-narcotics agents raided a house in



In this Tuesday, March 19, 2019, photo provided by the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, PDEA, Aaron Aquino, second from left, chief of PDEA, looks at more than 160 kilograms (353 pounds) of methamphetamine drugs concealed in tea wrappers following "buy-bust" raids in Alabang township, Muntinlupa city east of Manila, Philippines.

Tanza town in Cavite province south of Manila, killing two suspected Chinese drug dealers in a gunbattle and seizing 1.9 billion pesos (\$36 million) worth of methamphetamine, a powerful stimulant locally known as

shabu, Aquino said. Aquino has called for the return of the death penalty in the Philippines for drug traffickers, better security along the archipelago's extensive coastlines and more extensive databases

of foreign drug suspects for the immigration bureau to deter drug trafficking. Corruption also fosters the drug menace, he said. "There are those who have been detained for drug offenses, for example, in

China but they could still enter our country. We have arrested many of those identified foreign offenders here," Aquino told The Associated Press by telephone.

"The Chinese will never stop putting up drug laboratories because, firstly, there is no death penalty, and secondly, they can buy anybody," Aquino said. "They can buy judges, they can buy prosecutors and eventually they can go home safely."

Aquino has also sought legislation to make it easier to criminally charge owners of plush residences, condominium units and buildings, where he said drug traffickers have shifted their bases from more public areas and rural warehouses that have been raided by law enforcers. Tuesday's drug raid targeted a house that the Chinese suspects rented in posh part of Alabang village where prominent lawmakers, politicians and business executives live under tighter security. □

Japan urged to stop requiring surgery for ID gender change

By MARI YAMAGUCHI

Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Human Rights Watch urged Japan on Wednesday to drop its requirement that transgender people be sterilized before their gender is changed on official documents.

A 2004 law states that people wishing to register a gender change must have their original reproductive organs removed and have a body that "appears to have parts that resemble the genital organs" of the gender they want to register.

The Supreme Court in Janu-



In this May 7, 2017, file photo, participants smile as they march with a banner during the Tokyo Rainbow Pride parade celebrating the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community in Tokyo's Shibuya district.

ary rejected an appeal by a transgender man who wanted legal recognition without undergoing

surgery, though the court acknowledged that the practice restricts freedom and could become out of step with changing social values.

Human Rights Watch said the compulsory sterilization requirement is abusive and outdated. In a report, the international rights group said requiring invasive and irreversible medical procedures violates the rights of transgender people who want their gender identity legally recognized.

"Japan's government needs urgently to address and fundamentally revise the legal recognition pro-

cess that remains anchored to a diagnostic framework that fails to meet international standards," the report said. It said the law, which still defines gender incongruence as a "disorder," is out of step with international medical standards.

The group based its report on interviews with 48 transgender people and legal, medical and other experts in Japan. It said the country has fallen behind globally in recognizing transgender people's rights and still enforces "outdated, discriminatory and coercive policies." □

Puerto Rico lures tech developers as hurricane season looms

By DANICA COTO

Associated Press

ISABELA, Puerto Rico (AP)

— In the dark and isolating days after Hurricane Maria, people across Puerto Rico invented new ways to communicate: Elderly couples in need of food or water would raise a flag at their home. Neighbors created amateur security systems, banging on pots for a minute each night to mark the start of a curfew after which any human noise would be considered a call for help.

With telephone service blown away by the Category 4 hurricane, the governor took to the only radio station still operating and asked listeners to tell the mayors of all 78 municipalities to drive to the capital and update authorities about their needs in person. Access to devastated areas was impossible, and police, firefighters and emergency responders were unable to talk to each other for days.

"The biggest crisis after Maria was communication," said Nazario Lugo, president of Puerto Rico's Association of Emergency Managers. "That unleashed an endless number of problems."

Now several groups of young tech developers are trying to prevent that from happening the next time a major disaster strikes. They are roving Puerto Rico with laptops, transmitters and drones to test new systems that could help survivors communicate with authorities and speed up response times to minimize the number of deaths.

Puerto Rico is considered an ideal site to test and refine these inventions due to the Sept. 20, 2017, storm and its aftermath that claimed an estimated 2,975 lives. Technology is also lagging on an island where police and firefighters lack an interoperable system to communicate with each other.

One team of developers backed by IBM is sticking transmitters to trees with Velcro as part of a hardware and software system they invented called Proj-



In this March 13, 2019 photo, self-taught Puerto Rican tech developer Pedro Cruz, right, and Maria M., test the Clusterduck system, that provides a low-frequency Wi-Fi connection, in Isabela, Puerto Rico.

ect OWL, which stands for Organization, Whereabouts, and Logistics. It won a \$200,000 prize at a Call for Code competition late last year in which 100,000 developers from 156 nations participated — an event focused on natural disaster preparedness and relief.

"We were thinking, 'How can we make this in a way so stupidly simple to be used that you don't even have to think about it?'" said Project OWL team leader Bryan Knouse. "It's really hard to tell people who have been through a disaster, 'Download this app or go to this website.' Not gonna happen."

The tiny transmitter boxes emit a low-frequency Wi-Fi connection that users can link to via smartphones. Once connected, a pop-up box in English and Spanish automatically appears and people can enter information including name, location, number of pets, medical needs and hazards such as fallen trees, downed power lines, fires or blocked roads.

The information is relayed back through the network

and eventually to emergency officials.

The team recently made its first large-area test of system in the northwest coastal town of Isabela. One group got into a car and stopped repeatedly to affix transmitters around a 1 square-mile area while another group led by Knouse stayed at the home base, which that day consisted of the roof of a barbecue joint that provided enough height to collect the signals. Further boosting the signal were two large cream-colored balloons bought at Party City fitted with a transmitter.

The transmitters are powered by batteries and may be eventually solar power, and the team envisions the system working in places from the U.S. mainland to India to Japan.

Every couple of minutes, Knouse's computer dinged with messages that included names, location and details of the roving group that popped up on a map with messages such as "Help me please!" and "NEED WATER!!!" The team later met with members of a local Boys and Girls Club

to introduce the technology to young users in hopes they could teach and share it with their neighbors. Isabela's mayor, Carlos Delgado, said he was impressed by the project and wishes it was invented before Maria shredded the island's telecommunications system. He lamented how city officials had to walk to dozens of neighborhoods to learn about people's needs after the hurricane, which delayed the delivery of food, water and medicine. "It was a bit like going back to the start of humanity: everything was done on foot," he said.

Another project is led by Pedro Cruz, a self-taught Puerto Rican tech developer who recently won a local hackathon with a project called DroneAid. He recalled seeing messages such as "SOS" and "WE NEED FOOD" scrawled in big letters on roads so they could be seen from the air after Maria. He envisions before a storm giving people 5-foot-long mats with standardized symbols indicating needs — such as food, water or medical care — that could be

spread out on flat surfaces. Programmed drones could fly overhead, read the symbols and process them into data about needs and locations for emergency responders.

The idea came to him when he was physically unable to reach his grandmother after Maria. He could not communicate with her and worried about her respiratory and heart conditions. So he flew his drone to her house, and she waved through the window.

"She heard the drone and knew it was me," Cruz said, adding that his grandmother died two months after Maria from respiratory and cardiac failure at an intensive care unit in a hospital hit by frequent blackouts.

As he continued to fly his drone across Puerto Rico in the days and weeks after Maria, he noticed that sometimes food and water were being delivered to neighborhoods that already had been supplied, while others went begging: "There were a lot of duplicated efforts." He said his system might help avoid that.

Other tech companies have jumped at the opportunity to provide connectivity in the storm's aftermath, including Google, which obtained an experimental license from the U.S. Federal Communications Commission to provide emergency cellular service through Loon balloons. The project helped connect more than 200,000 people and began winding down in March 2018.

However, Lugo, a former emergency management director for Puerto Rico, warned the U.S. territory still needs to strengthen and update its communications system before the hurricane season starts on June 1. He also stressed that authorities should allow regular citizens and amateur radio operators to participate in that system.

"Communication should not be restricted," he said, adding that the government needs to embrace new technology. "We're still far behind." □

LOCAL



Ceremonial welcome of battleship in Oranjestad

ORANJESTAD — The battleship pertaining to the defense of the Caribbean region will be sailing into our harbor for the first time tomorrow, Friday March 22nd 2019. Since it's the first time this ship is entering our waters this will be received with the traditional ceremonial entry.

The ocean going patrol vessel Zr. Ms. Zeeland of the Royal Dutch Marine will be sailing along the shore of the Paardenbaai in Oranjestad at 8:30am, at the wharf in front of the official



residence of the governor. At this time the Zr. Ms. Zeeland will be giving the salute to the Kingdom flag.

The battleship will be saluted in return by cannon by a delegation from the Marine base in Savaneta.

The first shot of the salute to the Royal Netherlands Navy flag of the governor will be shot at 9:00am. The salvo salute of 21 cannon shots will last 2 minutes.

The 108-meter vessel has a crew of 60 marines. The Zeeland has a NH-90 helicopter on board, and has been sailing the Caribbean Sea since December of 2018.

The last time a Dutch marine ship visited the harbor of Aruba was September of 2018. Shortly after wel-

coming the battleship, they received a call about a drug transport. The helicopter was launched and this led to a successful drug interception.

Battleship

Besides offering a maritime presence and emergency assistance, the battleship also serves as antidrug operations. The ship is deployed by the Dutch marines, The Caribbean coast-guard and the American International antidrug organization joint Interagency Task Force South. □

Chabad celebrates Purim

ORANJESTAD — Purim in the Shtetl is Chabad of Aruba's creative twist to this year's community celebration of Purim, the holiday commemorating the Jewish people's salvation in Persia of old. The festivities will be held at Chabad of Aruba on Thursday March 21st.

Billed as the most joyous date on the Jewish calendar, the daylong holiday commemorates the nullification in 356 B.C.E. of a Persian decree calling for the extermination of the Jewish people throughout the Persian Empire as told in the biblical Book of Esther. Chabad's original spin on this age-old holiday has

helped bring the spirit of Purim to Aruba for the last few years.

"It combines ancient Jewish traditions with a modern twist," said Rabbi Aharon Blasberg, of Chabad Aruba. "We focus on doing interesting and innovative programs that will maximize the enjoyment for young and old alike, yet still keeping with the holiday theme".

The event is a community-wide program, and all are welcome to join. Participants will enjoy delicious food, live music, and fun entertainment.

In addition, the celebration will feature a reading of the Book of Esther, known in



Hebrew as the Megillah. The event is focused primarily on spirit, fun, and tradition. everyone is sure to have a great time!

In the spirit of Purim, participants are encouraged to come in costume, and there will be a competition for the most innovative or funny entries.

What is the holiday of Purim?

The festival of Purim is cel-

ebrated every year on the 14th of the Hebrew month of Adar. It begins this year after sundown on March 20 and ends at nightfall on March 21. The holiday commemorates the salvation of the Jewish people in Ancient Persia from Haman's plot "to destroy, kill and annihilate all the Jews, young and old, infants and women, in a single day." It is observed by public readings of the Megillah, or Scroll of

Esther, to recount the story of the Purim miracle, sending food gifts to friends, giving gifts of money to the poor and enjoying a festive Purim meal.

For more information on Purim festivities or on the holiday of Purim and its observances, contact Chabad Aruba at info@jewishAruba.com or visit our website at www.JewishAruba.com/purim. □

Honoring of loyal and friendly visitors at Aruba Beach Club



PALM BEACH— Darline de Cuba of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor several of Aruba's loyal and friendly visitors as Distinguished Visitors and Goodwill Ambassadors. The Goodwill Ambassador certificate is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba 20 years and more consecutively.

The honorees were Michael Raymond and Kay Conley from Monmouth who

received the Goodwill Ambassador certificate as they have been visiting Aruba for 20 consecutive years.

The honorees stated that they love coming to the island especially for the lovely people, the beautiful weather and the amazing sunsets. De Cuba together with representatives of the Aruba Beach Club presented the certificates to the honorees, and also handed over some presents and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and as their home away from home. □



Culture & Creativity our Identity

Maastricht – The month of March is a very cultural and festive month for the Aruban community. After many weeks of colorful parades and elections during the carnival season on the island, the fun does not seem to slow down. March is a cultural and patriotic time for Arubans as they celebrate the National Flag and Anthem Day of the country. On March 18th 1976, the Aruban flag and anthem “Aruba Dushi Tera” made its first appearance in the Wilhelmina Stadium. A proud moment for the Aruban people, in great celebration of their liberation and independent identity within the Kingdom of the Netherlands. When it comes to cultural and creative industries (CCI) culture represents a significant part of identity formation of a society and is immensely important for cultural and social developments. Aruba has numerous national symbols that reflect our culture, political journey and heritage. These include our anthem, our flag, our coat of arm, our native language Papiamentu, our currency and lastly, our national symbol; the Shoco (owl). For this week, let’s highlight Aruba’s national anthem and flag.

The Aruban National Anthem

Aruba’s Anthem, “Aruba Dushi Tera” was composed by mr. Padu Lampe, mr. Rufo Wever and mr. Hubert Booi. In preparation for Aruba to receive its status aparte within the Dutch Kingdom, on January 21st 1976, the government installed a commission that received the task to advise the government on what Aruba’s anthem would be like. On March 16th 1976, it became official; Aruba received its own anthem.

The Aruban Flag

In the same manner of the anthem, on January 21st 1976, Betico Croes installed another commission in charge of organizing the congress within the community to design Aruba’s flag. The Aruban flag consists out of the blue color, representing the ocean surrounding the island. The position of the red star indicated the placement of the island in the ocean. The red color indicating the love of the Aruban to its country and also to pay homage to the blood shed by the Indians. The yellow stripes representing the color of abundance, which complimented all economic industries Aruba has known and numerous indigenous flora and fauna. Lastly, the white rim on the red star, representing the white sand beaches that surround the island.



Many countries have national holidays or celebrations that are patriotic of some sort. Identity development is crucial especially when you are young and learning who you are and where you come from. In kindergarten children are so creative and are intentionally exposed to this so they can learn these skills. Unfortunately, even though this provides so many benefits, as the child grows up until adulthood, the less creative they are expected to be in a learning environment. In the past Artist Edition Series, we featured some professionals that continuously expressed the importance of the CCI in their own life and how they wished to have been more exposed to their culture. Studying abroad really highlights this desire to another level.

an international institution where I sit amongst colleagues from all over the world, I can’t help but to feel tremendous pride of my culture, language and my identity. It is not until I was removed from my environment, that I realized how much love and respect I have for Aruba. The world has a shared history and a rich, diverse cultural heritage. This heritage is cherished globally as an asset that belongs to us all, yet gives our societies their identity and binds them together, nurturing a rich cultural and creative present and future.

Celebrating Aruba’s National Day far away, really puts things in perspective. Culture has been and still is the tool for dynamic construction of individual and collective identities all over the world.

From a personal experience, living in the Netherlands and studying at

Continued on Page 15

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Culture & Creativity our Identity

Continued from Page 14

The active participation of people in local cultural activities (such as poetry, dance, sculpture, theatre, music, etc.) improves their quality of life and well-being and enhances opportunities and options of any community. Aruba is rich in all art forms and activities that represent the love and dedication for its heritage.

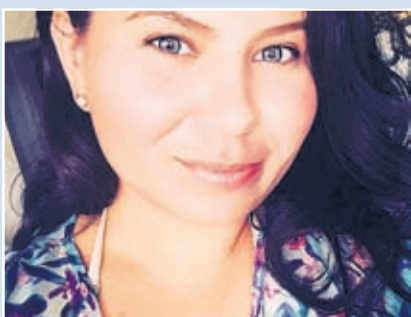
The month of March is a cultural month filled with activities such as "Poeta di Patria" (poetry festival) and Festival "un Canto pa nos Himno y Bandera" (song festival dedicated to the Aruban flag and anthem) etc. Talented Arubans of all ages and backgrounds participate to contribute to preserving the islands cultural heritage and to enrich these practices with the community. Over the years these festivals have grown and the awareness should continue starting with the young generation. Not to forget the cultural manifestation that is also



a tradition within our community. A beautiful presentation filled with music, dance, poetry in honor of those who fought for our liberty. So, CCIs make cities more livable, providing the hubs and many of the activities around which citizens develop friendships, build a local identity and fulfillment.

The Creative Islander wants to congratulate all organizations that in one way or other help preserve Aruba's cultural heritage. Also, to all the winners of this year's "Un Canto pa nos Himno y Bandera" and "Poeta di Patria". Thank you for contributing with your talent and creativity. To the entire Aruban community, to all Arubans living abroad, to all who have made Aruba their home, to all who just love the island; "Felis Dia di Himno y Bandera". For us in the Netherlands, the celebration starts this weekend.

All Aruban students and professionals residing in the Netherlands are coming together this Sunday for the annual "Aruba Dag" (Aruba Day) festival. We too will have the opportunity to cohesively pay tribute to our Aruba and all her achievements over the years. In the words of Betico Croes; "Libertad, nos Identidad!" (liberty, our identity). In my words: "Creatividad, nos Identidad" (creativity, our identity). □



Biography – Currently, Thaïs Franken is a 23-year-old Aruban student at the University of Maastricht (UM). She is studying a Master of Science in Public Policy and Human Development in collaboration with the United Nations University (UNU). Back home, on the beautiful island of Aruba she completed her Bachelor of Arts in Organization, Governance & Management (OGM) at the University of Aruba (UA). She successfully graduated and defended her thesis titled "Placing Culture and Creativity at the Heart of the Aruban Sustainable Development" on July 6th 2018. Thaïs is very passionate about topics such as sustainability, innovation, culture and creativity. Next to her academic interests, she enjoys reading, writing, dancing and cooking.

CELEBRATING ITS FIVE YEAR ANNIVERSARY! ARUBA RAY'S COMEDY CLUB!



NOORD — The “Aruba Ray’s Comedy” features some of the funniest American standup comedians in a terrific 90-minute show. Celebrating five year’s of Excellence in Aruba, Aruba Ray’s Comedy is the number one rated Night Time Activity on TripAdvisor, the number one rated Show on TripAdvisor, and the number one rated Fun Activity on TripAdvisor.

This is the same caliber show you would find at the top comedy clubs in NYC. The comedians are truly some of the best from the United States, and perform in a relaxed, intimate setting at the Marriott. This wonderful show is a great way to spend a night out

APPEARING UNTIL APRIL 3RD:
CHUCK NICE FROM “THE TODAY

SHOW,” ROBERT KELLY FROM “THE JIMMY FALLON SHOW,” DC BENNY FROM SHOWTIME, RACHEL FEINSTEIN FROM “LAST COMIC STANDING,” and RAY ELLIN FROM “THIS WEEK AT THE COMEDY CELLAR” ON COMEDY CENTRAL

Ray Ellin hosts and produces the shows. Considered by his peers to be the best host in NYC, Ray is known as “Aruba Ray” because of his passion for Aruba. Ray has been coming to Aruba every month for the past six years, and produces and hosts these incredible comedy shows on the island. He is a popular comedian in New York, and has brought his talent and colleagues to Aruba. Ray has appeared on many television programs; he has hosted the popular talk show Late Net, and hosted the television shows The Movie Loft, Brain Fuel, and New York Now. He also



produced and directed the very successful film The Latin Legends of Comedy, distributed by 20th Century Fox.

Ray is an executive producer and co-star in the new television show This Week at the Cellar, on Comedy Central.

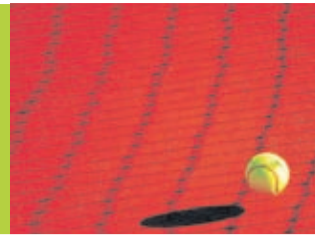
The shows are at 8:30pm, every night, from March 21st to April 3rd, in the Amsterdam Ballroom at the Marriott Resort, down the hall from the casino. Doors open at 8:00pm. It is suggested to arrive early - seating is first come first serve. The showroom is intimate - it is suggested you purchase tickets in advance at www.ArubaComedy.com. You can also purchase tickets (subject to availability!) at the Amsterdam Ballroom showroom door at 7:30pm. The tickets are \$37 online, and \$42 at the door. Anyone can attend, however the show is suggested for a mature audience.

Ask your concierge for assistance, or call the Aruba Marriott Resort and Stellaris Casino at 520-6225, or call Aruba Ray’s Comedy Club at 749-4363.

Check out for yourself why the ARUBA RAY’S COMEDY CLUB was named as one of USA Today’s “10 Best!” ☐



SPORTS



AP-NORC Poll: U.S. divided on college vs. pro sports betting

By WAYNE PARRY and EMILY SWANSON

Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)

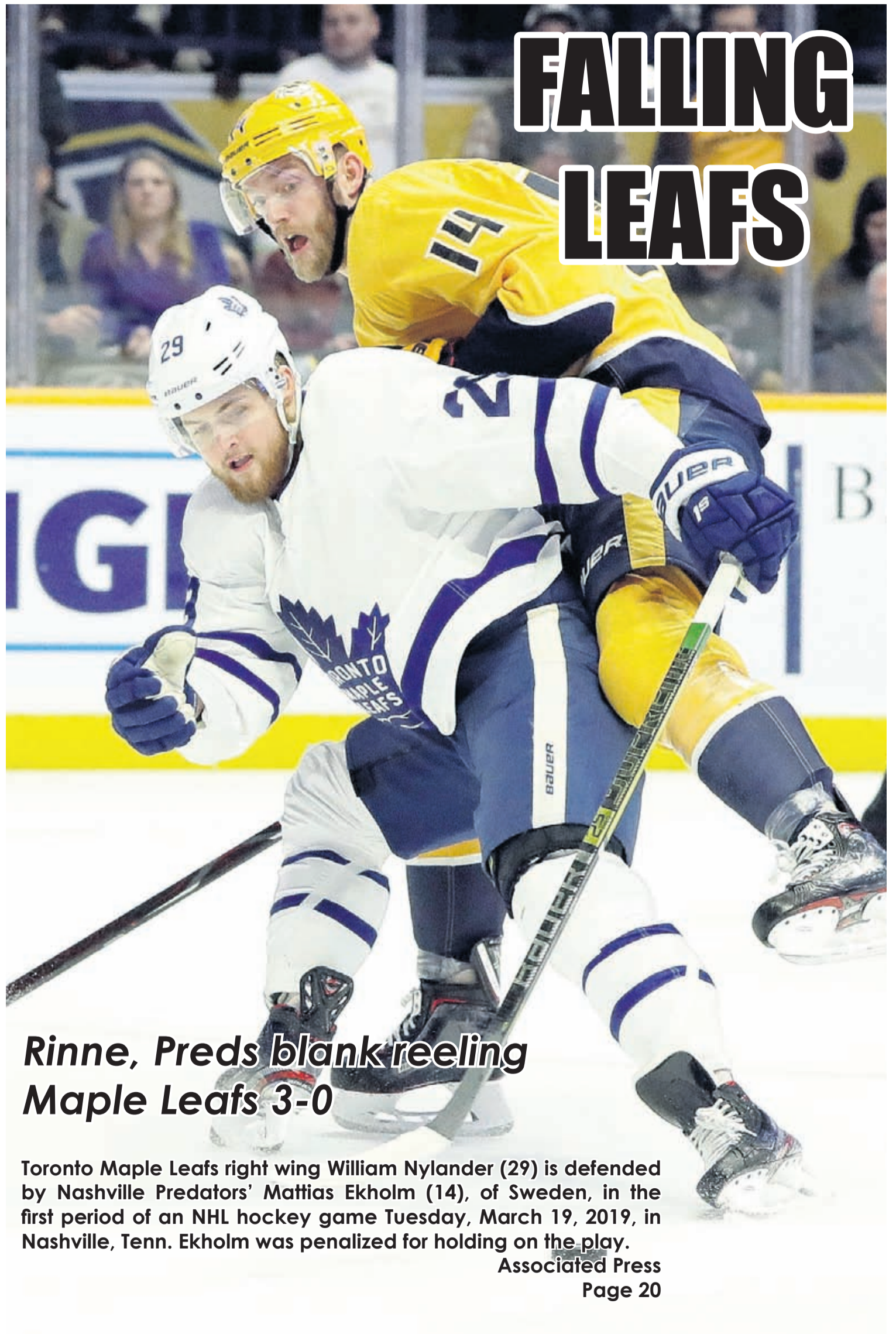
— Scrambling to fill out a March Madness bracket? Betting lunch money that you can pinpoint the Final Four better than co-workers or family?

Good luck! You're among about one-third of Americans who at least occasionally bet on sports among friends or through an office pool, according to a poll released Wednesday by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

Still, with all the action on the NCAA men's basketball tournament, the survey finds less support for legal betting on college sports than on the pros. Six in 10 in the survey want betting on professional sports to be legal in their state, far more than the 42 percent who feel that way about college athletics.

This is the first college basketball championship since the Supreme Court cleared the way last year for states to offer legal sports betting if they choose. Eight states currently allow the wagers: Delaware, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, West Virginia and New Mexico, where sports bets are done through a tribal compact. Many more states are considering sports betting.

Continued on Page 22



FALLING LEAFS

Rinne, Preds blank reeling Maple Leafs 3-0

Toronto Maple Leafs right wing William Nylander (29) is defended by Nashville Predators' Mattias Ekholm (14), of Sweden, in the first period of an NHL hockey game Tuesday, March 19, 2019, in Nashville, Tenn. Ekholm was penalized for holding on the play.

Associated Press
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Danica Patrick doesn't miss racing since retiring last year

By JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) —

Danica Patrick choked back tears after crashing out of her final Indianapolis 500, that one last trip around the historic speedway that launched her career coming to such a disappointing close.

She has not been back to a race track in the 10 months since. And she hasn't looked back even once.

NBC Sports announced Wednesday that Patrick will be part of its inaugural broadcast of the Indianapolis 500 in May, a project that will return her to Indianapolis Motor Speedway for the first time since she ended her career there a year ago with the second leg of the "Danica Double." In a telephone interview with The Associated Press, she was asked if she has missed racing since she walked away.

"No. No I don't. I'm being really honest," Patrick said without hesitation. "I'm not someone who looks back on things and has a lot of regret. I'm really not. Anytime anybody asks me if I could change anything, what would I change? Well, I'm just not the kind of person that really thinks like that. You know, I (raced) it for 27 years and life is so short and there's so much to experience and so much to do. I spent a lot of time racing and now I can spend time doing other things."

Patrick is the only woman to lead laps in both the Daytona 500 and the Indianapolis 500, win the pole for the Daytona 500 and win an IndyCar Series race. Her third-place finish at Indy in 2009 is the highest for a woman.

She walked away last season after a farewell tour that stopped at Daytona and Indianapolis. Both finales ended in crashes, and Patrick gradually eased into private life following the Indy 500. She was the first woman to host the ESPYs in July, but has spent the bulk of her time enjoying personal travel, occasional speaking engagements and focusing on her



In this May 20, 2018, file photo, Danica Patrick waits during qualifications for the IndyCar Indianapolis 500 auto race at Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Indianapolis.

wine label.

Patrick has been primarily based in Phoenix since January, when the NFL season ended for quarterback boyfriend Aaron Rodgers, and enjoying the freedom of setting her own schedule.

"I'm an optimist who thinks things will work out and even though they can be scary along the way, but I really felt strong enough to make the decision to retire and move on and jump into these other projects I have," Patrick said. "You don't want to be half-hearted going 200 mph. The intention was that I wanted to travel and I wanted to be able to be able to just take a week-

long trip ... plan events in the summer that are really cool, go to concerts."

Part of her retirement schedule took Patrick, who turns 37 next week, on her first return trip to Europe since the start of her racing career. Patrick moved alone as a teenager to England to pursue her career and now admits she was unhappy and didn't enjoy the experience.

It left her with little desire to visit London or Paris as a tourist, but she gave it a shot with friends late last year and found it to be a cathartic trip that helped her make peace with her earlier experiences.

"England was the place that I didn't really like and I

had a lot of resentment for it," Patrick said. "Then I get back to London and the people are nice the food's really, really good and it's a really cool city."

She recalled becoming sick in Paris long ago after eating a steak someone had refused to cook longer.

"I was just, like, miserable and people weren't very nice," she said.

"So the French had a reputation in my mind. Then I went back this time and the people were so nice and the food was so good and the city was so beautiful.

"I just had a totally different experience and I think that one is maturity playing a role, and two, you know

when you're financial position changes and your ability to do more things opens up, that probably helps a little from a practicality side."

Patrick has put her clothing line on hold and although she has continued her social media presence in the fitness space, she's not presently working on a second book.

She hopes to start writing more, but a second book would veer away from the health and fitness focus of her debut "Pretty Intense."

"I think it would be more spiritual, more metaphysical, quantum science kind of stuff," she said.

"Maybe I'll just submit my journal." □

Associated Press

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Wilder is talking trash and ready for Breazeale at Barclays

By **BARRY WILNER**
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Not to be outdone by the other heavyweight titleholder, Deontay Wilder showed he can be a champion at trash talk, too.

A month after Anthony Joshua and Jarrell Miller squared off in a nasty, expletive-infused war of words to announce their fight — Joshua owns the major belts other than the WBC, which is Wilder's — the man known as the "Bronze Bomber" and Dominic Breazeale went at it Tuesday at Barclays Center. Fans can only hope the May 18 fight as action packed. "It's always great to get a mandatory out of the way. They're like flies buzzing in my ear. I just want to get them out of the way so I can do great things for the heavyweight division," said Wilder, who wasn't so great in his last fight, when he drew with Tyson Fury,

the first time he didn't win in 40 career bouts. "I want one champion, one face, one name, but you need a lot of cooperation to make that happen."

Wilder, who has 39 knockouts, was referring to getting Joshua into the ring to unite the titles. But Wilder has remained tied to Showtime and spurned the opportunity to join streaming service DAZN, which now has Joshua. So any unification fight is pretty far off.

Indeed, should Wilder pull off what he claims will be a "massacre" of Breazeale, another meeting with Fury eventually could happen. But Fury is affiliated now with ESPN through his promoter, Top Rank.

Regardless, Wilder has worked up quite the animosity toward Breazeale (20-1, 18 KOs), whose only loss is to Joshua. And the feeling is mutual.

"I'm sick of seeing this bum walking around with his



In this March 3, 2018, file photo, Deontay Wilder poses for photographs after the WBC heavyweight champion defeated Luis Ortiz in New York.

belt," Breazeale said. "He's a chump in the ring. ... I'm going to put him down." Their acrimony stems in part from a hotel incident after

each fought on the same card two years ago. Details are sketchy and lots of allegations flew Tuesday. Regardless, Wilder-

Breazeale will be the second heavyweight title fight in New York in two weeks; Joshua-Miller follows on June 1. Perhaps most noteworthy is that, unlike Joshua's defense that will be streamed, Wilder chose to stick with cable TV and Showtime, praising the channel's loyalty to him.

DAZN has made rapid inroads in boxing, notably through its deals with Joshua and Canelo Alvarez, probably the sport's most popular fighter. HBO has dropped out of boxing.

"It was critical for Deontay, for the sport and his fans, that this fight be available not on pay-per-view, but on Showtime," said Stephen Espinoza, Showtime's president of sports and event programming.

Showtime has a streaming service for cord-cutters that broadcasts boxing. "Because of his insistence, that's the primary reason we're standing here today." □

Caps regain 1st in the Metro; Canes outlast Pens in shootout

By The Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — Brett Connolly sparked a three-goal second period and the Washington Capitals moved into first place in the Metropolitan Division with a 4-1 victory over the New Jersey Devils on Tuesday night.

Evgeny Kuznetsov and Tom Wilson also scored in the second as the defending Stanley Cup champions won for the 10th time in 13 games. Andre Burakovsky got the other goal and backup goalie Pheonix Copley made 20 saves in winning his sixth straight since the All-Star break.

Washington started the day tied with the Islanders for first place in the division, but it took over with the win and New York's 5-0 loss to Boston. The Capitals and Islanders each have nine games left in the regular season.

Kenny Agostino scored for the third time in five games for New Jersey. MacKenzie Blackwood made 18 saves as the Devils lost to the Capitals for the third time in four meetings this season

HURRICANES 3, PENGUINS 2, SO

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Dougie Hamilton scored in the shootout, Petr Mrazek stopped Pittsburgh cold and the Carolina Hurricanes beat the Penguins. Justin Williams scored the tying goal with 1:56 left in regulation, and Brock McGinn also scored for the Hurricanes.

They won their fourth in five games and earned an important two points in the tight Eastern Conference playoff race — and perhaps just as important, prevented the Penguins from picking up a second point. Jake Guentzel had a goal and an assist, Kris Letang scored a late goal, Bryan Rust had two assists and Matt Murray made 37 saves for the Penguins, who have lost three straight — the past two in either overtime or the shootout — but have earned points in nine of their past 10 games against Metropolitan Division opponents.

CANADIENS 3, FLYERS 1



New Jersey Devils goaltender MacKenzie Blackwood, bottom, lies on the puck after making a save against the Washington Capitals during the third period of an NHL hockey game, Tuesday, March 19, 2019, in Newark, N.J. The Capitals won 4-1.

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Brendan Gallagher, Shea Weber and Max Domi scored goals, Carey Price stopped 32 shots and Montreal earned a win over Philadelphia. The Canadiens and Flyers are both chasing a wild-card spot in the Eastern Conference. Montreal entered three points behind Columbus for eighth place in the East and the Flyers were six points out with 78.

With less than 10 games left for each team, time has about run out for the Flyers to complete their desperate playoff push. The Canadiens, well, they have a playoff pulse after losing two straight and four of five overall.

PREDATORS 3, MAPLE LEAFS 0

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Pekka Rinne shut out Toronto for the second time this season and Brian Boyle, Wayne Simmonds and Filip Forsberg scored goals to give Nashville a win over the Maple Leafs.

Nashville won its third straight and Toronto lost for the fourth time in five games. Rinne made 22 saves and Toronto goalie Frederik Andersen made 17 stops.

Nashville pulled within one point of first-place Winnipeg in the Central Division. But the Predators have

played two more games. Toronto fell six points behind second-place Boston in the Atlantic Division. Nashville also beat Toronto 4-0 on Jan. 7 when Rinne made 18 saves.

BRUINS 5, ISLANDERS 0

UNIONDALE, N.Y. (AP) — Sean Kuraly scored twice and Tuukka Rask earned his 45th career shutout and Boston beat the Islanders. Noel Acciari, Patrice Bergeron and Jake DeBrusk also had goals to help the Bruins win their second straight since a three-game skid that followed their 19-game point streak (15-0-4). Boston has won seven consecutive meetings between the teams — eight in a row in New York.

Rask had to make only 13 saves for his fourth shutout this season, and first ever against the Islanders.

Robin Lehner, making first start since he was injured March 5 late in New York's 5-4 shootout win at home against Ottawa, finished with 34 saves. The Islanders' 13 shots were their fewest of the season.

David Pastrnak returned to the Bruins' lineup for first time since Feb. 10. He missed 16 games with a thumb injury sustained when he fell after a team dinner.

FLAMES 4, BLUE JACKETS 2
CALGARY, Alberta (AP) —

Johnny Gaudreau scored his team-leading 35th goal and Michael Frolik added a goal and an assist and Calgary earned a win over Columbus.

David Rittich made 31 saves to win his fourth start in a row. Andrew Mangiapane and Matthew Tkachuk also scored for the Flames and Austin Czarnik had two assists.

Oliver Bjorkstrand and defenseman Zach Werenski scored for Columbus. Sergei Bobrovsky stopped 27 shots in the loss.

The Flames were the first Western Conference team to clinch a playoff spot Sunday.

With nine games remaining in the regular season, their objective is staying atop the Pacific Division and ahead of the San Jose Sharks.

San Jose was idle Tuesday but clinched a playoff spot when the Minnesota Wild lost to the Colorado Avalanche.

Columbus leads the Eastern Conference's final wild-card spot by one point after Montreal's 3-1 win in Philadelphia.

STARS 4, PANTHERS 2

DALLAS (AP) — Alexander Radulov had two goals in the third period to lift Dallas over Florida.

Coach Jim Montgomery reunited the Stars' three

top scorers on the first line during the first period. In addition to Radulov's two goals and an assist, Jamie Benn had a goal and two assists and Tyler Seguin assisted on all four goals.

The Stars remained in position for the Western Conference's first wild-card spot and stayed within two points of third-place St. Louis in the Central Division. Midway through the third period, Seguin reached up to keep the puck inside the blue line. He then passed to Benn for a 2-on-1 break. Benn passed across to Radulov, who beat Panthers rookie goalie Sam Montembeault with a snap shot to make it 3-2. John Klingberg scored on the power play in the second period to give Dallas a 2-1 lead.

AVALANCHE 3, WILD 1

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Philipp Grubauer made 36 saves to lift Colorado over the Wild in a game that had playoff implications in Minnesota and elsewhere. Tyson Barrie, Tyson Jost and Ian Cole scored for Colorado, which won its second straight game.

Minnesota remained one point behind the idle Arizona Coyotes for the second wild-card spot in the Western Conference, while the Avalanche got within one point of the Wild and two of Arizona. Colorado also has a game in hand on Minnesota. The result also clinched a playoff berth for the San Jose Sharks.

Zach Parise scored and Devan Dubnyk stopped 35 shots for Minnesota.

BLUES 7, OILERS 2

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Jaden Schwartz had three goals and an assist, David Perron added two goals and two assists, and St. Louis routed the Edmonton.

Schwartz scored once in each period for his fourth career hat trick and first since Oct. 18, 2017, against Chicago.

Alex Pietrangelo and Pat Maroon also scored for the Blues, who outshot Edmonton 44-17 and improved to 6-1-2 in their past nine home games against the Oilers. □

Nets erase 28-point deficit in 2nd-half, top Kings 123-121

By The Associated Press
SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — D'Angelo Russell scored 27 of his career-high 44 points in the fourth quarter, Rondae Hollis-Jefferson made a layup with eight-tenths of a second remaining, and the Brooklyn Nets rallied from 28 points down in the second half to beat the Sacramento Kings 123-121 on Tuesday night and snap a four-game losing streak. Brooklyn was sluggish and out of sync for three quarters before Russell sparked the Nets' biggest comeback of the season. After scoring 17 points in the first half and going without a point in the third quarter, Russell shot 10 of 15 in the fourth quarter, repeatedly burning Sacramento's defense with quick drives to the basket. Russell also had four 3-pointers in the fourth quarter, breaking Allen Crabbe's single-season record of 201 set last season. Russell has 202.

Hollis-Jefferson had 14 points off the bench, and none more important than his game-winning layup after Sacramento's Marvin Bagley III stepped out of bounds with 5.5 seconds left. Hollis-Jefferson took the inbound pass from Joe Harris and looked for Russell, who was being double-teamed. With the clock winding down, Hollis-

Jefferson drove from near the 3-point arc and went around a Kings defender near the hoop to score. Jarrett Allen added 13 points and seven rebounds for Brooklyn. Spencer Dinwiddie scored 10 points. De'Aaron Fox scored 27 points for Sacramento. Marvin Bagley had 29 points on 12-of-15 shooting for the Kings (35-35). Nemanja Bjelica added 14 points and 10 rebounds, while Harrison Barnes scored 17.

WARRIORS 117, TIMBERWOLVES 107

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Stephen Curry scored 22 of his 36 points in the third quarter and Klay Thompson pitched in with 28 points as Golden State beat fading Minnesota and regained first place in the Western Conference.

Jonas Jerebko added 18 points, Kevin Durant scored 17 points and Draymond Green had 10 rebounds and nine assists for the Warriors (48-22), who bounced back from a loss at San Antonio on Monday and moved a half-game ahead of Denver (47-22) in the race for the top seed. The Nuggets were idle.

Curry went 8 for 14 from 3-point range, pushing him past the 300 mark for the third time in four seasons. Karl-Anthony Towns had 26 points and 21 rebounds,

Andrew Wiggins totaled 20 points, eight rebounds and six assists and Josh Okogie had 19 points for the Timberwolves, who lost their fourth straight game.

CLIPPERS 115, PACERS 109

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Danilo Gallinari scored 24 points, Montrezl Harrell had 20 points and 12 rebounds, and Los Angeles prevented Indiana from clinching a playoff berth.

Clinging to a 110-107 lead, Lou Williams hit a jumper with 40 seconds left to stop a 5-0 run by Indiana.

Tyreke Evans and Bojan Bogdanovic scored 19 points each for the Pacers, whose road skid extended to seven straight games. Doug McDermott added 17 points and Domantas Sabonis had 13 points and a career-high-tying 16 rebounds playing the second night of a back-to-back.

BUCKS 115, LAKERS 101

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Khris Middleton scored 30 points and Brook Lopez added 28 as Milwaukee beat Los Angeles. Milwaukee played without Giannis Antetokounmpo, who is nursing an injured ankle, while LeBron James sat out for Los Angeles due to a sore groin.

Nikola Mirotic added 23 points for Milwaukee, which improved to an NBA-best 53-18. Kentavious Caldwell-Pope had a season-high 35



Brooklyn Nets forward Rondae Hollis-Jefferson, right, goes up for the game winning basket against Sacramento Kings forward Marvin Bagley III, left, in the closing moments of the Nets 123-121 win over the Kings in an NBA basketball game Tuesday, March 19, 2019, in Sacramento, Calif.

Associated Press

points for the Lakers, three off his career best. Kyle Kuzma added 17 points. Los Angeles has lost four consecutive games and nine of 10.

ROCKETS 121, HAWKS 105

ATLANTA (AP) — James Harden had 31 points and 10 assists, Clint Capela added 26 points and 11 rebounds and Houston won its third straight game.

The Rockets have won 12 of 13 and have 10 wins in their last 13 road games. Trae Young had 21 points

and 12 assists and John Collins added 20 points 10 rebounds for the Hawks.

Chris Paul had 13 points, 11 assists, three steals and just one turnover. Capela got his sixth straight double-double and 37th overall.

76ERS 118, HORNETS 114

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Ben Simmons scored 28 points, JJ Redick had 27 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists and Philadelphia held on to beat Charlotte for its fifth straight victory. □

Giannis out again as banged-up Bucks try to clinch division

By TOM WITHERS
AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) — The Bucks are staggering to the finish line of a special regular season.

Milwaukee superstar Giannis Antetokounmpo will miss his second straight game with a sprained right ankle on Wednesday night, one of several key injuries to hit the Eastern Conference-leading Bucks in recent days. A leading MVP contender, Antetokounmpo will rest against the Cavaliers as the Bucks, who enter with the NBA's best record, try to clinch their first Cen-

tral Division title since 2001. Antetokounmpo also sat Tuesday night when the Bucks beat the Los Angeles Lakers, who played without LeBron James and deprived fans of a matchup of two of the game's biggest names.

"He's making progress," coach Mike Budenholzer said of Antetokounmpo. "He just can't go tonight. It's us hopefully being smart and being somewhat cautious, but it's more than that. He can't play. We'll see how the next 24 to 48 hours go, and I'm hopeful he'll be in a good place as

we move forward."

Antetokounmpo is averaging 27.5 points, 12.7 rebounds and 6.0 assists, and his mere presence on the floor makes the Bucks a more dangerous team.

In the past few days, the Bucks have been rocked by injuries to starting guard Malcolm Brogdon (plantar fascia tear) and forward Nikola Mirotic (sprained thumb). Milwaukee will also be without backup center Pau Gasol (ankle), guard Sterling Brown (wrist), guard Donte DiVincenzo (heel) and guard George Hill (groin). □



Milwaukee Bucks' Giannis Antetokounmpo reacts after making a shot during the second half of the team's NBA basketball game against the Philadelphia 76ers on Sunday, March 17, 2019, in Milwaukee. The 76ers won 130-125.

Associated Press



In this Jan. 20, 2019 file photo, TJ Dillashaw reacts after a flyweight mixed martial arts championship bout against Henry Cejudo at UFC Fight Night in New York.

Associated Press

Dillashaw gives up UFC 135-pound title because of drug test

LAS VEGAS (AP) — TJ Dillashaw has surrendered the UFC 135-pound championship because of an "adverse finding" in his last drug test.

Dillashaw posted on social media that he would give up the belt after he was informed by the New York State Athletic Commission and the United States Anti-Doping Agency of the results of his test leading up to his last fight in January. Dillashaw suffered first-round loss to Henry Cejudo and failed to become a two-division champion.

"While words can't even begin to express how disappointed I am at this time, please know that I'm working with my team to understand what has occurred

and how to resolve this situation as quickly as possible," Dillashaw said. "Out of fairness and respect to the rest of the division, I've informed the UFC that I'll be voluntarily relinquishing my title while I deal with this matter."

The 33-year-old Dillashaw (16-4) had cut 10 pounds of weight to fight Cejudo. Dillashaw used a program devised by a triathlete math professor and performance specialist to cut some serious weight in his attempt to hold championships in two weight classes. He's a two-time bantamweight champion and won the title for a second time when he defeated Cody Garbrandt at UFC 217 in November 2017. □

21 athletes, 5 sports in focus as doping probe expands

MUNICH (AP) — As many as 21 athletes from five sports may have been part of a doping ring stretching around the world, German prosecutors said Wednesday.

Austrian police arrested five competitors at the Nordic skiing world championships last month and the case has since spread to cycling. Munich prosecutor Kai Graeber said the scandal could spread further. Graeber said blood dop-

ing has occurred in at least 10 different countries since late 2011 and "there is believed to have been a three-figure number of cases of blood withdrawal and re-transfusion around the world."

The athletes come from eight different countries, Graeber said.

Authorities aren't naming suspects or the sports affected, but Graeber said three of the five sports are winter events. □



In this Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018, file photo, gamblers place bets in the temporary sports betting area at the SugarHouse Casino in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

Pro Sports Betting

Continued from Page 17

Eilers & Krejcik Gaming, which tracks sports gambling legislation, estimates that sports betting will be legal in 39 states by the end of 2023. The company estimates \$15.2 billion in sports bets would be made on the NCAA tournament alone if sports betting was legalized across the country.

Among those who say they're very interested in sports, 69 percent think betting on professional sports should be legal and 52 percent say the same about college sports. Among those who are not very interested in sports, 50 percent favor betting on pro sports and 38 percent support wagers on college sports.

Men are somewhat more likely than women to support gambling on professional sports, 65 percent to 56 percent. Forty-five percent of men and 40 percent of women think betting on college sports should be legal.

Support for legal sports betting appears to cross political party lines: 65 percent of Democrats and 59 percent of Republicans want legal betting on professional sports, while only 47 percent of Democrats and 41 percent of Republicans think it should be legal to bet on college sports.

"People should be able to

do what they want with their money," said Karen Warnshuis of Clovis, California, where sports betting is not legal. "If they want to bet on sports, then they should be able to."

The 57-year-old co-owner of a construction business also favors allowing legal wagers on collegiate athletics, although she worries about possible cheating.

"The one thing I don't like about sports betting is it becomes questionable whether teams or individual players might do something bad," she said. "But then, that could have been happening before legal sports betting, too."

Shelley Matthews, a 70-year-old from Dallas, Texas, is against betting on any level of sports.

"Gambling is not a good idea," he said. "I don't gamble, and I don't know anybody who does."

He, too, worried about the possibility of games being fixed if large amounts of money were riding on them, and said many people gamble more than they can afford, harming their families and communities.

Arturo Isla, a 69-year-old banker from Jacksonville, Florida, opposes wagering on any level of sports, due in large part to the experience of a family friend whose marriage broke up. He said the friend's husband was a heavy gambler.

Isla said he understands the rationale of legalizing, taxing and regulating sports betting to help reduce control of the activity by organized crime and offshore internet sites.

"That's valid, but just because something is legal doesn't mean there aren't negative aspects to it," he said. "People can get addicted, and it can affect their personal lives and their families."

Betting among friends or through office pools is currently the most popular form of sports betting, according to the survey. Thirty-six percent of Americans say they do that at least occasionally, while 20 percent say they've at least occasionally placed bets at casinos and 10 percent through betting or fantasy sports websites or apps.

But the poll also found most people say they currently never gamble on sports, including online (89 percent), at casinos (79 percent) or among friends (63 percent). No more than 5 percent of Americans say they frequently take part in any of those forms of sports betting.

In general, the poll found, most Americans consider gambling to be a problem, but not a major one. About 2 in 10 think gambling is a major problem in the U.S. now, 6 in 10 think it's a minor problem, and about 2 in 10 think it's not a problem. □

MLB managers want limits, not bans, on clubhouse video games

By JAKE SEINER
AP Sports Writer

DUNEDIN, Fla. (AP) — Charlie Montoyo thought he would be taking a hard line against video games in his first year as Toronto Blue Jays manager.

Before he could put his foot down on Fortnite, the players took it upon themselves to govern their gaming.

"We're going to play less, I know that," Montoyo said. "It's actually not my rule. It's our clubhouse rule."

The role of video games at the ballpark was put in the crosshairs Monday when ESPN reported that veteran first baseman Carlos Santana smashed a television in the Philadelphia Phillies' clubhouse last September to stop teammates from playing Fortnite. Santana, now with the Cleveland Indians, told ESPN that Phillies players were sneaking into the locker room to play during games.

Manager Gabe Kapler acknowledged the Fortnite playing, but he and pitcher Jake Arrieta deny it was happening during games.

"Our players say that that wasn't the case, and I trust our players," Kapler said.

Video games have long been a pastime for big leaguers, but Fortnite pushed their popularity to another level last season.



In this Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019, file photo, Toronto Blue Jays manager Charlie Montoyo watches during a spring training baseball game against the Philadelphia Phillies in Dunedin, Fla.

The Houston Astros hooked up gaming consoles to many of the 10 TVs in their spring training clubhouse for raucous, team-wide clashes, and the Boston Red Sox routinely played in hotel rooms after games. Those clubs even celebrated on-field feats with dances popularized by the cartoonish battle royale video game.

Fortnite certainly didn't slow the Red Sox or Astros. They matched up in the AL Championship Series, and

Boston won the World Series.

Major league managers don't think Fortnite is a problem, necessarily. In fact, many are into the idea of bonding over slurp juice and boogie bombs. Just so long as players aren't thinking about Tilted Towers when they should be prepping for the batter's box.

Montoyo, a longtime minor league manager who was most recently bench coach in Tampa Bay, an-

icipated making changes in Toronto when he took the job this offseason. The Blue Jays had a reputation as a gamer-friendly clubhouse last year while going 73-89.

But when Montoyo met with a group of players to establish rules, he found the players were already planning to power down their PlayStations at the ballpark. Their idea: Institute a shut-down time for all clubhouse consoles — something that was fine by Montoyo. The

time is yet to be finalized, but most likely, all games will be powered off within an hour of first pitch. As long as players are getting in their work, they'll be free to play video games at any other time. First-year Texas Rangers manager Chris Woodward established early that he'd be proactive on limiting gaming. He worked with veteran shortstop Elvis Andrus to establish rules on consoles and phones. Players can still do some gaming at the ballpark, but the message is clear.

"I think that should be without saying that nobody should be playing a video game during a major league baseball game," Woodward said.

He also is asking players to be smart about playing games away from the park. "I'm not going to have rules that say you can't play at night, but if you are playing until 6 or 7 in the morning, your performance is going to suffer on the baseball diamond, and if I find out about that, we will have a conversation," Woodward said. "You can curtail that and say: 'Maybe I will play until 1 or 1:30 in the morning. Then have a legitimate sleeping pattern that is consistent to maximize my performance on the baseball field.'" □

AP source: Alex Bregman, Astros agree to \$100M, 6-year deal

By KRISTIE RIEKEN
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — Alex Bregman and the Houston Astros have agreed on a \$100 million, six-year deal that keeps the All-Star third baseman under contract with the team through 2024, according to a person with direct knowledge of the situation.

The agreement includes this season, buys out three years of arbitration eligibility (2020-22) and pushes back Bregman's opportunity to become a free agent by two years.

The person spoke Tuesday night on condition of ano-

nymity because details had not been released by the team. The agreement was first reported by KRIV-FOX 26.

The 24-year-old Bregman made his first All-Star team last season and was selected MVP of the game after hitting a home run to help the American League win. He set career highs with a .286 batting average, 31 homers, 103 RBIs and a major league-leading 51 doubles, finishing fifth in AL MVP balloting.

The second overall pick in the 2015 amateur draft out of LSU, Bregman has hit .282 with 58 homers and 208 RBIs

in 2½ seasons with the Astros, helping them win consecutive AL West titles and the 2017 World Series.

Bregman was limited early this spring after having arthroscopic surgery on his right elbow in January.

The deal means the Astros have Bregman and star second baseman Jose Altuve locked up through 2024.

The 28-year-old Altuve, who had offseason knee surgery, is a six-time All-Star and the 2017 AL MVP. His \$163.5 million, seven-year contract includes annual salaries of \$26.2 million from 2020-24. □



Houston Astros' Alex Bregman hits a home run in the first inning during an exhibition spring training baseball game against the Miami Marlins, Thursday, March 14, 2019, in West Palm Beach Fla.

Associated Press

Why Facebook didn't block live New Zealand shooting video

By **KELVIN CHAN** and **AN-ICK JESDANUN**

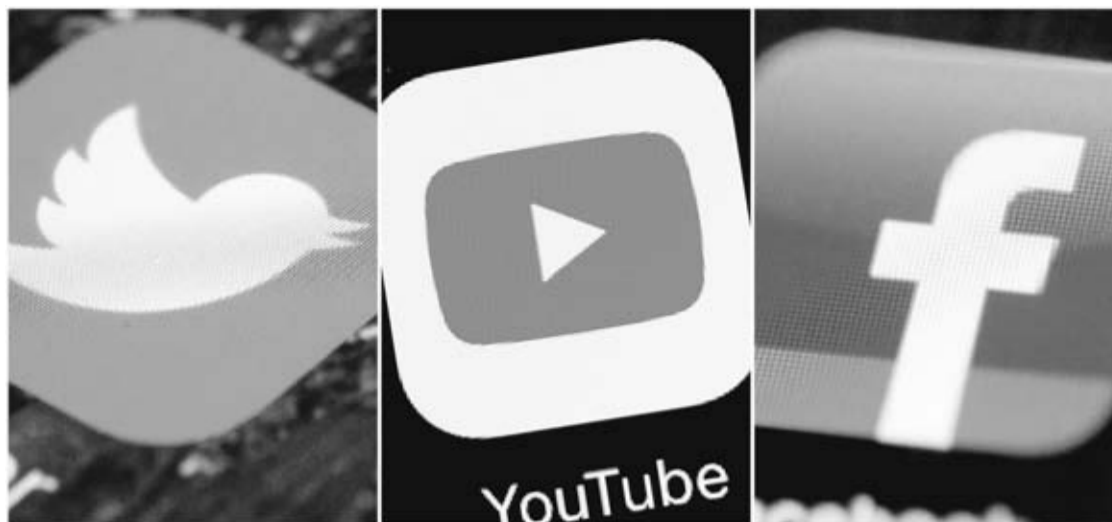
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Why did Facebook air live video of the New Zealand mosque shooting for 17 minutes? Didn't anyone alert the company while it was happening?

Facebook says no. According to its deputy general counsel, Chris Sonderby, none of the 200 or so people who watched the live video flagged it to moderators. In a Tuesday blog post, Sonderby said the first user report didn't come until 12 minutes after the broadcast ended.

All of which raises additional questions — among them, why so many people watched without saying anything, whether Facebook relies too much on outsiders and machines to report trouble, and whether users and law enforcement officials even know how to reach Facebook with concerns about what they're seeing on the service.

"When we see things through our phones, we imagine that they are like a television show," said Siva Vaidhyanathan, a professor of media studies at the University of Virginia. "They are at a distance, and we have no power."



This combination of images shows logos for companies from left, **Twitter, YouTube and Facebook.**
Associated Press

Facebook said it removed the video "within minutes" of being notified by New Zealand police. But since then, Facebook and other social media companies have had to contend with copies posted by others. The shooting suspect carefully modeled his attack for an internet age, as he live-streamed the killing of 50 people at two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand.

Tim Cigelske, who teaches about social media at Marquette University in Milwaukee, said that while viewers have the same moral obligations to help as a bystander does in the physical world, people don't necessarily know what to do.

"It's like calling 911 in an

emergency," he said. "We had to train people and make it easy for them. You have to train people in a new way if you see an emergency happening not in person but online."

To report live video, a user must know to click on a small set of three gray dots on the right side of the post. A user who clicks on "report live video" gets a choice of objectionable content types to select from, including violence, bullying and harassment. Users are also told to contact law enforcement if someone is in immediate danger.

Facebook also doesn't appear to post any public information instructing law enforcement how to report dangerous or criminal

video. The company does have a page titled "information for law enforcement authorities," but it merely outlines procedures for making legal requests for user account records. Facebook didn't immediately respond to a request for comment and questions about its communications with police.

Facebook uses artificial intelligence to detect objectionable material, while relying on the public to flag content that violates its standards. Those reports are then sent to human reviewers, the company said in a November video.

The video also outlined how it uses "computer vision" to detect 97 percent of graphic violence before

anyone reports it. However, it's less clear how these systems apply to Facebook's live streaming.

Experts say live video poses unique challenges, and complaints about live streaming suicides, murders and beatings regularly come up. Nonetheless, they say Facebook cannot deflect responsibility.

"If they cannot handle the responsibility, then it's their fault for continuing to provide that service," said Mary Anne Franks, a law professor at the University of Miami.

She calls it "incredibly offensive and inappropriate" to pin responsibility on users subjected to traumatic video.

In some cases, it's not clear at the outset whether a video or other post violates Facebook's standards, especially on a service with a range of languages and cultural norms. Indecision didn't seem to be the case here, though. Facebook simply didn't know about it in time.

Facebook's Sonderby said in Tuesday's blog post that the company "designated both shootings as terror attacks, meaning that any praise, support and representation of the events" are violations. □

FBI tracked Michael Cohen's phones with controversial device

By **MICHAEL R. SISAK**

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Michael Cohen, meet the Triggerfish.

Search warrant documents made public Tuesday show the FBI used highly secretive and controversial cell-phone sweeping technology to zero-in on President Donald Trump's former personal lawyer when agents raided his New York City home, hotel room and office last year.

Agents using a Triggerfish cell-site simulator tracked the whereabouts of Cohen's two iPhones to a pair of rooms a floor apart at the Manhattan hotel where he and his family had taken up residence while their apartment was being ren-



This undated file photo provided by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office shows the **StingRay II**, a cellular site simulator used for surveillance purposes manufactured by Harris Corporation, of Melbourne, Fla.

Associated Press

ovated, according to the documents. The FBI said in its April 8, 2018 warrant application that it was only using the device to locate Cohen's phones, not to in-

tercept his calls or text messages. The raid happened the next day.

Separately, the agency obtained logs of the numbers Cohen was calling and

texting, and reams of location data — including for the time period just before the 2016 presidential election, when he negotiated hush-money payments for women alleging they had sex with Trump. They also got permission to press Cohen's thumb to the phones or hold them up to his face to unlock them.

But it was the agency's use of cell-site technology that stood out amid nearly 900 pages of documents from the Cohen raids.

Civil liberties and privacy groups have been objecting to the suitcase-sized devices, sometimes known as StingRays or Hailstorms, which act like a cell tower and often connect to cell-phones other than the per-

son being tracked. Police departments and federal agencies have been using them in relative secrecy for nearly three decades. The earliest references online date to 1991.

The technology, originally developed for the military, can pull data from a target's devices — but also from unwitting people whose phones connect to the phony cell tower because it's often closest and shows the strongest signal. Police can determine the location of a phone without the user even making a call or sending a text message. Some even allow law enforcement to listen in on conversations or see text messages as they're being sent and received. □

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7 tax changes investors should watch for as they file

By ANDREA COOMBES
Associated Press

Americans will face a slew of new rules during the first tax-filing season with the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 in effect.

Here's what changed for investors:

1. NO DEDUCTION FOR INVESTMENT EXPENSES

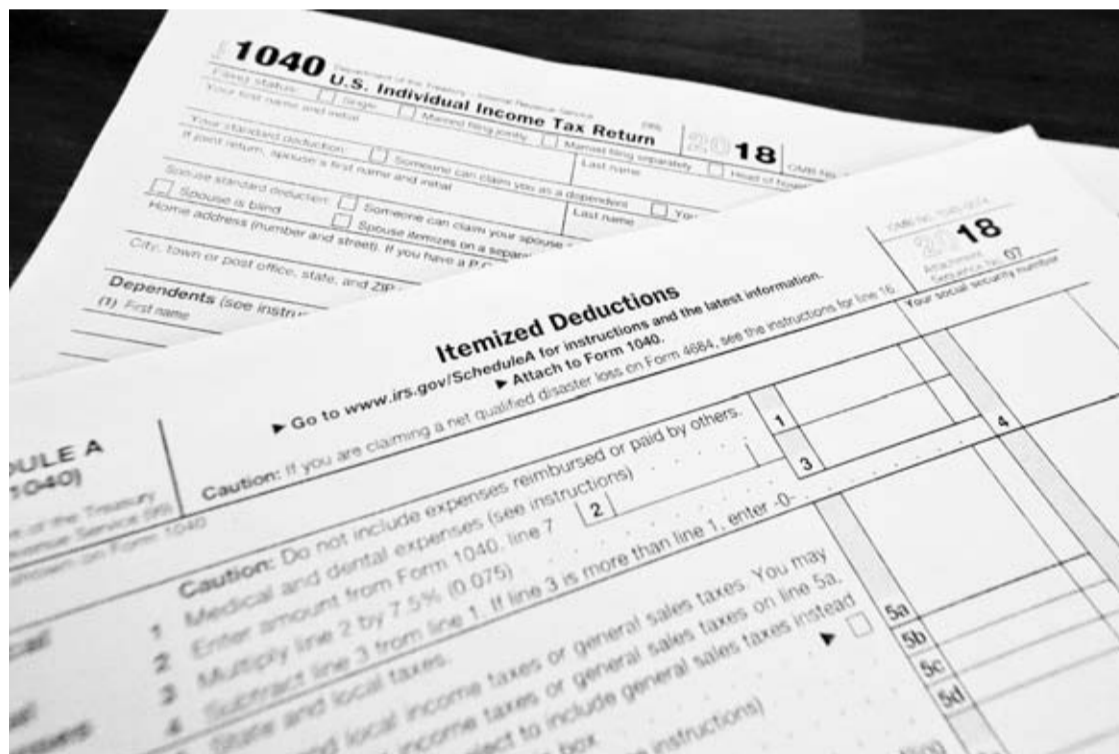
For taxpayers who itemize, the 2 percent miscellaneous itemized deduction was a handy catchall bucket for expenses such as investment fees and expenses and tax-preparation fees. It wasn't easy to qualify for this deduction — your expenses had to top 2 percent of your adjusted gross income before you could claim them — but it was a nice option to have.

2. LOWER TAX RATES ON SHORT-TERM CAPITAL GAINS

Here's some good news: The new tax law trimmed income tax rates. That means short-term capital gains — that's money you make when you sell certain investments that you've held for less than a year — now also enjoy a slightly lower rate.

"If you've got short-term gains — those are taxed as ordinary income — they get the benefit of lower rates now, so there's a bit of a break there," says Tim Steffen, director of advanced planning at financial-services firm Baird, in Milwaukee.

3. THE NEW 20 PERCENT



This Feb. 13, 2019, shows multiple forms printed from the Internal Revenue Service web page that are used for 2018 U.S. federal tax returns in Zelenople, Pa.

PASS-THROUGH INCOME DEDUCTION

If you're a real estate investor — say, you purchase houses and rent them out, or some other such activity — there's a chance the new 20 percent deduction on pass-through income will apply to you.

The rules are complex, but generally, to qualify for this deduction as a real estate investor, the IRS wants you to be operating a business. The IRS has announced some "safe harbor" rules to help clarify the types of activities that will allow real estate businesses to qualify for the deduction.

For example, you need to maintain separate books

and records for this activity, and you or someone you hire must spend at least 250 hours a year managing your rentals, says Mark Luscombe, principal analyst with Wolters Kluwer Tax & Accounting in Riverwoods, Illinois.

But even if you don't meet the safe harbor rules, you still might qualify. As noted, it's complicated, so hire a tax pro if you think you might be eligible to claim this deduction.

Luscombe adds that investors in real estate investment trusts may enjoy the new deduction with respect to certain qualified dividends they receive from those REITs.

4. NO MORE ROTH RECHARACTERIZATIONS

Before the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, converting a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA came with an out: By the tax-filing deadline — when you would have to pay income tax on the money you converted — you could reverse, or "recharacterize," your decision. In some cases, people were doing this if their investments in the account tanked between the time of the conversion and the tax-filing deadline.

But now, no matter the reason, it's no longer possible.

5. THE KIDDIE TAX IS A LITTLE DIFFERENT NOW

The way children's un-

earned income (generally interest, dividends and investment gains) is taxed has changed.

Previously, kids paid taxes at their parents' rate on any unearned income over \$2,100. Under the new rules, the rates for estates and trusts apply on unearned income over \$2,100.

For the 2018 tax year, children pay 10 percent on net unearned income up to \$2,550; 24 percent on any excess up to \$9,150; 35 percent on any further excess up to \$12,500; and 37 percent on any excess above \$12,500.

And for long-term capital gains and qualified dividends, the rates for estate and trusts apply: 0 percent up to \$2,600, 15 percent from \$2,600 to \$12,700, and 20 percent on the excess above \$12,700.

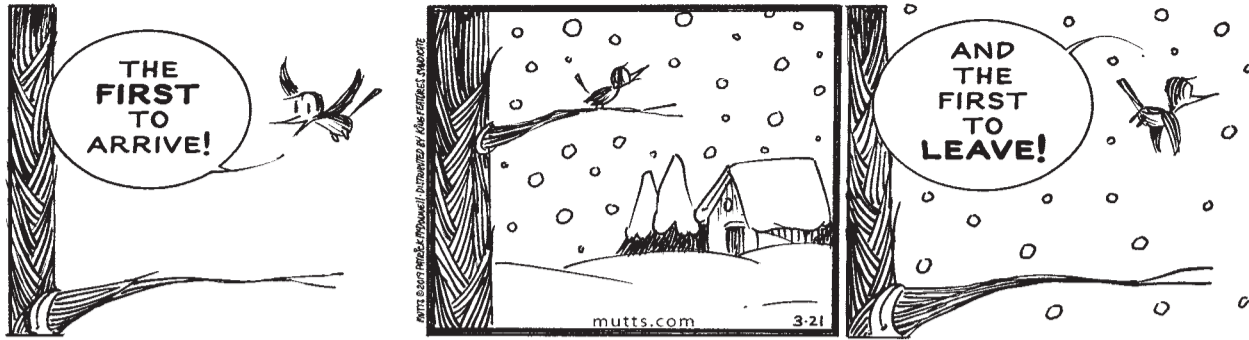
(A 3.8 percent tax on net investment income may apply as well.)

6. IT'S EASIER TO PAY BACK 401(K) LOANS

Under the old rules, if you lost your job while you had a 401(k) loan outstanding, that loan became due within 60 days — and if you didn't meet that deadline you risked owing taxes and a 10 percent penalty on that money.

The new tax rules give you until the tax-filing deadline (up to mid-October if you file an extension) to pay back your loan and avoid the taxes and 10 percent penalty. □

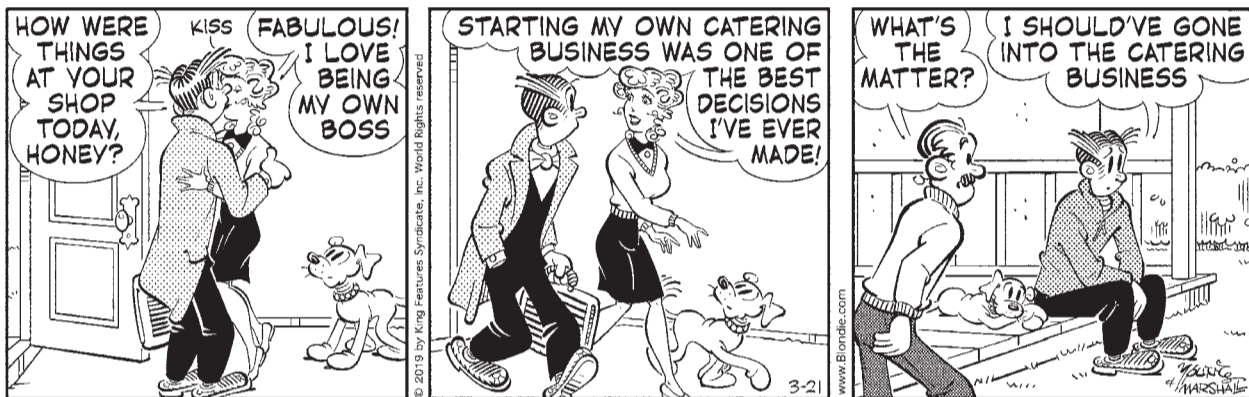
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	3	5	2					
6				9			3	
	7		1					
3							2	8
	6		4		5			
1	5							6
			2		9			
	4		9					5
			3		6		7	

Difficulty Level ★★★

3/21

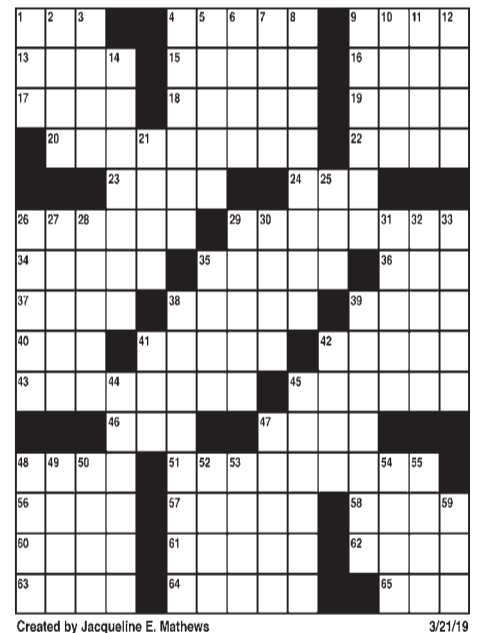
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

8	6	4	7	2	3	5	1	9
2	5	1	6	9	8	4	3	7
7	3	9	4	1	5	8	2	6
9	1	8	2	5	4	7	6	3
6	4	2	9	3	7	1	5	8
5	7	3	1	8	6	2	9	4
3	2	5	8	4	9	6	7	1
4	9	6	5	7	1	3	8	2
1	8	7	3	6	2	9	4	5

ACROSS

- 1 Persian or Siamese
- 4 Drink container
- 9 "O Mio"
- 13 Haughtiness
- 15 Morocco's capital
- 16 Sharp tools
- 17 Radar screen image
- 18 Modern term for "dropsy"
- 19 ___ years; 2020, 2024, etc.
- 20 Cowardly
- 22 Singer Williams
- 23 San Francisco's Golden ___ Bridge
- 24 Dinner entrée
- 26 Cone toppers
- 29 Hottest, among salsas
- 34 Portions
- 35 Incline
- 36 Twosome
- 37 Can covers
- 38 Adhere
- 39 On the ___; increasing
- 40 Wrath
- 41 Basketball goals
- 42 Grand ___ of Luxembourg;
- 43 Turbulent streams
- 45 Make helpless; stymie
- 46 St. Joan of ___
- 47 Penniless
- 48 Fashionable
- 51 Egg on
- 56 Michigan or Geneva
- 57 Passes out cards
- 58 Knight & Kennedy
- 60 Do ___; repeat
- 61 Bird of prey
- 62 Wise one
- 63 ___ of the d'Urbervilles"
- 64 Frock
- 65 Bread variety



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

3/21/19

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

PAW	STAGS	SHOW
NEMO	TERRA	PAPA
ESPN	RECAPTURES	
DOH	BETSY	ARENA
IRISH	SUN	
HABITS	KANSAS	
ALICE	EJECT	NEW
NOOK	BLINK	DANA
GNU	COMBO	COLOR
ESSAYS	HUNGRY	
HIS	TERSE	
MASON	THERE	STE
ABOVE	BOARD	LIAR
CLUE	AFIRE	ICKY
SELL	RULER	ESE

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3/21/19

DOWN

- 1 Uber alternative
- 2 Has a bug

- 3 Journey
- 4 Says hello to
- 5 Serving utensil
- 6 As busy as ___
- 7 Houston & others
- 8 ___ away; storing
- 9 Deli purchase
- 10 Plow pullers
- 11 Go before others
- 12 Catch sight of
- 14 Faucets
- 21 Snoozes a bit
- 25 Perform
- 26 Banana ___; ice cream treat
- 27 Egypt's capital
- 28 Put in ___; make tidy
- 29 Loses one's footing
- 30 Cookware items
- 31 Royal decree
- 32 Cold-rice-and-fish dish
- 33 See eye ___; agree
- 35 Job opening
- 38 Acknowledged grudgingly
- 39 Tots, slangily

- 41 Feminine pronoun
- 42 Entrance
- 44 Foyt & Unser
- 45 Monopoly player's purchases
- 47 Voter surveys
- 48 Blood ___; thrombus
- 49 "'Tis better to ___ loved and lost..."
- 50 Hobbies for Tina Turner & Mamie, once
- 52 Close
- 53 Parakeet's home
- 54 Equipment
- 55 Jittery
- 59 Observe

Halley Time Travel

Divi Vilage

Sunday Check in building F
1 BR WK # 8 & 9 Same room
rd floor with 21 and 25 weeks
remain
on the contract \$7500 Each

Divi Links Golf

Saturday Check in Eagle 15
1BR WK 8 & 9 with 27
weeks remain \$9000 each
Eagle Resorts & Casino
1 Br WK 7 Ground floor \$5500

Divi Village

Building C Elevator
2 BR WK 13 \$14K
3rd floor with 29/8 accelerated
weeks remain
Divi Village
Building C
1 BR WK #14 \$7500
1st floor with 16 weeks remain

La Cabana Beach and Casino

Sunday Check in
1 BR WK 11 & 12 \$18 K Both
weeks
4th floor pool/ocean view

Marriott Ocean Club

Platinum Weeks
1 BR Ocean View \$12 K
2 BR Ocean View \$17 K
2 BR Ocean Front \$28 K

Marriott Surf Club

Platinum
2 BR Garden View \$15 K
2 BR Ocean View \$16 K
2 BR Ocean Side \$17 K
2 BR Ocean Front \$27 K
3 BR Ocean View \$27 K

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and muchmore.
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Roxanne:5664329

Aruba Divi Phoenix

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33 Weeks remain \$25K each
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Building 7 3rd floor
34 weeks remain \$15 K

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Divi Links Golf

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Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
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Science Says: Tiny 'water bears' can teach us about survival

BY SETH BORENSTEIN

AP Science Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — Earth's ultimate survivors can weather extreme heat, cold, radiation and even the vacuum of space. Now the U.S. military hopes these tiny critters called tardigrades can teach us about true toughness. These animals are pip-squeaks, only about the size of a period. Under a microscope they look like some combination of chubby bear and single-eyed alien. And they are the closest life gets to indestructible.

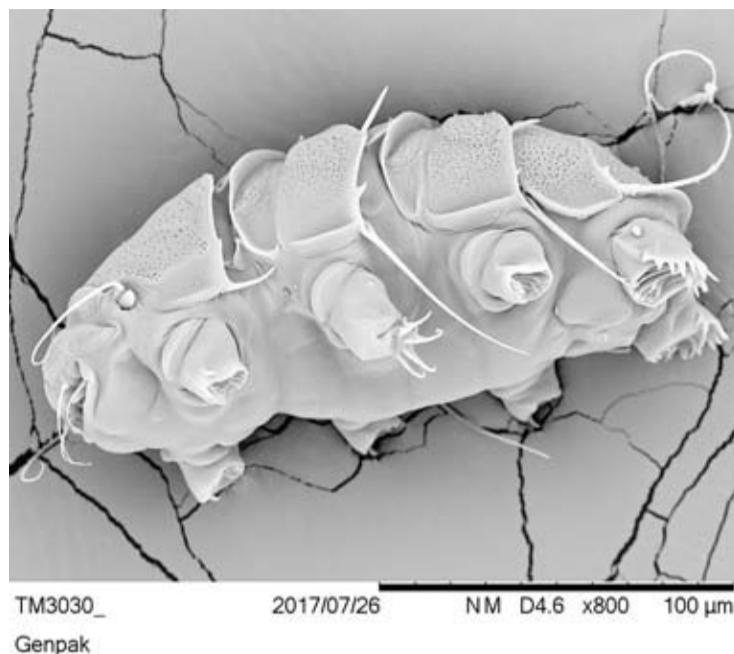
No water? No worries. Tardigrades survive. Antarctic cold, 300-degree heat (150 degrees Celsius), a lack of oxygen, even punishing radiation doesn't stop these animals. They are so resilient in the face of so many dangers that scientists think their unique biology may hold clues to how we can make crops more resistant to drought, better preserve blood and medicines, and even make more effective sunscreen.

When the going gets tough for tardigrades, they curl up, dry out and wait. Then, when the environment gets better and they get water, they spring back to life.

Scientists say they can stay dormant for decades before reanimating.

In 2007, scientists put two species of tardigrades in containers, launched them into orbit and opened them up to cold, airless space full of punishing radiation from the sun and stars.

"If you were put into that same thing, you would explode," said tardigrade expert Randy Miller, a biologist at Baker University in Kansas. They lived and later multiplied, and the offspring from those tardi-



This undated electron microscope image provided by William Miller of Baker University in March 2019 shows a tardigrade of the class Heterotardigrada, also known as a "water bear."

Associated Press

grade astronauts are still alive, Miller said.

There are as many as 1,200 species of tardigrades, and they live all over Earth, from mountain tops to ocean depths to driveways. Not all have the ability to go dormant and come back to life.

Speaking from McMurdo Station in Antarctica, Brigham Young University biologist Byron Adams said he can walk a few hundred yards outside and find tardigrades. He called them the tigers of inland Antarctica, near the top of the limited food chain, eating algae and aquatic plants. Miller said tardigrades seem to be the first animals on Earth to have evolved legs, and, sure enough, they look like a first draft: The rear two legs face backward while the front six face forward.

If they are hurt when they are in an active phase and can't go into survival mode, they die like other creatures. But they don't have a circulatory system or a skeleton, so that allows

them to curl up in a hyper-survival mode called "cryptobiosis."

Not all the critters come back from suspended animation, Miller said. But overall, they survive, even living through Earth's five mass extinctions.

Duke University biologist Thomas Boothby wanted to know how they manage to survive in "environments we think of as being impossible to live in." So he isolated the genes that activate

when tardigrades need to go into cryptobiosis.

Boothby engineered those genes into yeast and says their tolerance to drought increased 100-fold. He hopes the genes could also help crops better survive drought.

In December, the Defense Department's long-term research arm gave Boothby a nearly \$5 million grant to figure out what in tardigrade genes might help human health.

The idea is to see if the tricks that tardigrades use to protect themselves when they dry can be used to protect vaccines and human blood, Boothby said.

Boothby hopes to make bags of blood last longer than the current six weeks and allow them to be stored in a dried state so soldiers can take their own blood supply to battle or ambulances can carry more. Tardigrade tricks could possibly also help with preserving vaccines to help reduce the enormous cost and complexity of trying to keep vaccines cold. They could also potentially help preserve organs or damaged tissue.

Japanese scientists are

studying whether tardigrade proteins could help them come up with a better sunscreen to protect against ultraviolet rays that cause skin cancer. A 2016 study showed that human cells augmented with a DNA protein unique to tardigrades reduced radiation damage in preliminary lab tests.

Tardigrades are so otherworldly that some theorize that they could easily exist on planets outside the solar system. Harvard astronomer Avi Loeb said "they could survive an impact by a rock and they could potentially be brought from another planet" to Earth.

Loeb and colleagues decided to see if life on Earth could survive some of the worst cosmic calamities. So they looked at the hearty tardigrades, concluding that the water bears could survive most end-of-the-world scenarios, like a giant asteroid crash, cosmic ray burst or nearby supernova — everything short of our sun blinking out. "It's good to know that at least one creature on Earth has a chance of surviving no matter what," Loeb said. □

Ocean mission's emergency ascent caused by motor burning out

By DAVID KEYTON and JERRY HARMER

Associated Press

ALDABRA, Seychelles (AP) — A drama in which a submersible made an emergency ascent from 250 meters (820 feet) below the Indian Ocean was caused by condensation burning out a small motor in the cockpit, the director of the British-led Nekton Mission said on Wednesday.

Oliver Steeds told The Associated Press that the burnout produced an acrid smell of smoke which triggered the pilot's emergency response.

The American pilot, Robert Carmichael, and the passenger, British scientist Molly Rivers, donned breathing apparatus as the vessel neared the surface.



A submersible after British scientist and her American pilot had to make an emergency ascent from 250 meters beneath the surface of the Indian ocean off the Seychelles after smoke filled their two-person submersible, Tuesday March 19, 2019.

Associated Press

With Carmichael and Steeds on board, it dived to 80 meters for roughly two hours and returned to the surface without incident. The submersible is a key part of the Nekton Mission, an unprecedented, years-

long scientific exploration of the Indian Ocean to document changes taking place beneath the waves that could affect billions of people in the surrounding region over the coming decades. □

Jay-Z, Dead & Co, the Killers to perform at Woodstock 50

By MESFIN FEKADU

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Jay-Z, Dead & Company and the Killers will headline one of the 50th anniversary shows commemorating the groundbreaking Woodstock festival this summer. Woodstock co-founder Michael Lang announced Tuesday that Miley Cyrus, Santana, Imagine Dragons, Robert Plant and The Sensational Space Shifters, the Black Keys and Chance the Rapper will also perform at the Woodstock 50 Music and Arts Fair, which will take place Aug. 16-18 in Watkins Glen, New York, about 115 miles (185 kilometers) northwest of the original site. The event is separate from an anniversary concert planned at the site of the original festival in 1969.

Tickets for the three-day festival pushing the message of peace, love and music go on sale April 22, which is Earth Day.

Lang said though Woodstock took place 50 years ago, today's world and 1969 are somewhat parallel.

"It's kind of spooky how similar things are. How



This combination photo shows, from left, Robert Plant, Miley Cyrus and Chance the Rapper, who will perform one of the 50th anniversary shows commemorating the Woodstock festival which will take place Aug. 16-18 in Watkins Glen, N.Y.

some of the things that we thought we'd gone past in the last 50 years — the racial divides, care for the environment and women's rights — now we have Black Lives Matter and the #MeToo movement and climate deniers and another (expletive) in the White House," Lang said. "So, it's very similar."

Lang made the announcement at a press conference at Jimi Hendrix's Electric Lady Studios in New York City alongside Common and John Fogerty, who performed at the original

Woodstock. Both Fogerty and Common will perform this summer.

Fogerty, 73, recalled performing his set in 1969 after the Grateful Dead hit the stage. He said he took the stage after midnight and half of the audience was asleep.

"I was frustrated and I said something like, 'We hope you're having a good time out there. We're playing our hearts out for ya up here.' And I don't really see much moving. I see a light, somebody's lighter goes on in the darkness and some-

body out there says, 'Don't worry about it John, we're with ya!' So I played the whole rest of my complete Woodstock concert for that guy," he said.

More than 80 artists, including David Crosby, Janelle Monae, Brandi Carlile, Country Joe McDonald, Halsey, the Lumineers, Portugal the Man and India. Arie, are expected to perform on three main stages at Watkins Glen International racetrack in the Finger Lakes for Woodstock 50. The original concert was held on a farm in Bethel,

New York that is now run as an attraction by The Bethel Woods Center for the Arts. The venue plans its own anniversary event Aug. 16-18. Common, 47, said he is happy to represent hip-hop music at Woodstock 50 and be a part of a festival that not only focuses on music, but has a strong social and political presence.

"To be able to be connected to Woodstock in any shape, form or fashion for me is one of the greatest honors I've had as an artist, as a human being (and) as a musician," the Grammy, Oscar and Emmy winner said. "There's so much going on right now (and) I think one of the best ways we can combat the ignorance, the divisiveness, the hatred is to go out there (and) push love and express love and practice love, and it definitely comes through, that love comes through at Woodstock." "I'm not 50, but I'm grateful to be a part of this," Common said as the audience laughed.

More than 400,000 people attended the Woodstock Music and Arts Fair, which was held Aug. 15-17, 1969. □

Associated Press

After 'Gotham,' Ben McKenzie goes from hero to movie bad guy

By LYNN ELBER

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Ben McKenzie is looking forward to his next career chapter after "Gotham," both on-screen and behind the camera. During the five years he's starred as Gotham City police detective and future commissioner James Gordon in the Batman prequel, McKenzie also wrote two episodes and directed three others. Writing and storytelling are family traditions: His mother, Frances Schenkan, is a poet, and his uncle, Robert Schenkan Jr., a Pulitzer- and Tony Award-winning playwright. In an interview with The Associated Press, he talked about the satisfactions of stretching beyond acting, the joy of playing a

movie bad guy, and how the "Gotham" finale must thread the needle for its fans and the never-ending Batman saga. The concluding episode, written by showrunner John Stephens, airs April 25 on Fox. McKenzie, 40, who has a daughter with actress-wife Morena Baccarin and is stepdad to her son, also noted the difference between parenting and directing. Remarks have been edited for clarity and brevity.

AP: The last episode of "Gotham" you directed, "Legends of the Dark Knight," aired in February. What challenges did it present?

McKenzie: We had a massive fight sequence inside a building that was supposed to be burned out.



In this March 26, 2018 file photo, actor Ben McKenzie poses for a portrait in New York to promote his Fox series, "Gotham."

Associated Press

We had a dog. We had kids. But each episode I direct is a new challenge

and it adds to the understanding of the craft, that each challenge has a solution. Whether you get to the solution early or scramble for it, I find it almost always getting done, and you learn from it.

AP: How a series ends is increasingly important to fans. What makes for a memorable finale and what can we expect for "Gotham"?

McKenzie: I think the key is to not wrap it all up in a bow. My favorite series-ender, to show where I'm coming from, is probably "The Sopranos." Just leave them hanging. (Laughs). So we do that here. I think John (Stephens) has written an excellent end to the show, which pays off many of the things we've been promising the audi-

ence for so many years, and yet opens the door to a whole other world (of Batman).

AP: You're in films including "The Report" with Adam Driver and the upcoming "Live!" playing the villain opposite Aaron Eckhart. Was that character a welcome change?

McKenzie: It was great. I just loved it. He has an earned point of view but he's a real son of a gun. We shot down in Alabama and I got into the feeling of being back in the South again, (after) growing up in Texas and going to school in Virginia. I have a real fondness for being back there, and this guy had some flair in his talking and how he goes after (Eckhart's character). That was a fun one. □

Now 30, 'The Little Mermaid' paved the way for Elsa and Anna

By **MARK KENNEDY**

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — It's not uncommon for people to just look at Jodi Benson and burst into tears. Sometimes they hyperventilate or scream. But mostly they break down and start sobbing. Benson will hold them, heaving in her arms, and pat their back gently. Benson isn't a household name but for many she's an intimate part of their child-

hood. She supplied the singing and speaking voice of Ariel, the heroine of the 1989 animated Disney hit "The Little Mermaid," which is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. Benson says she will sometimes watch as the stunned movie's fans virtually go back in time in front of her. "It triggers a memory for them," she says. "They remember who they were with when they saw



This image released by Disney shows Ariel, voiced by Jodi Benson, in a scene from "The Little Mermaid."

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the movie the first time. Maybe that sibling is no longer with them, that grandparent is no longer with them. It reminds them of a relationship that had been broken with a parent. So they have all sorts of emotions that go on."

"The Little Mermaid " has changed a lot of lives, not least of which is Benson's, who has continued to perform Ariel virtually every weekend in concerts as well as on film in the "Wreck-It Ralph" franchise. "The Little Mermaid" also had a big role in making Disney into an animation juggernaut and reviving the art form. Many believe we'd never have Anna and Elsa from "Frozen" without first having Ariel.

"Disney was starting to get into a groove that would continue, but I feel like a lot of that started with 'A Little Mermaid,'" says Ron Clements, who co-wrote and co-directed the film. Benson was a rising Broadway star when Ariel came into her orbit. She had been in a short-lived musical "Smile" when Howard Ashman, the musical's lyricist and story writer, invited the out-of-work cast to audition for his next project, an adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's "The Little Mermaid."

Producers wanted the singing and speaking voice to be supplied by the same actress. So Benson, a lyric soprano, sang the signa-

ture "Part of Your World" on a reel-to-reel tape and was handed a few of pages of dialogue.

"I ran into the ladies' room," she recalls "and waited for everybody to get out of the stalls and started talking to the mirror, sort of trying to come up with what would she sound like at 16."

Benson, it turned out, was a master mimic. She had spent countless hours in her room as a child with her guitar, singing along to records by Barbra Streisand, Carole King, James Taylor as well as Marvin Hamlisch's "A Chorus Line."

"I would start to just sing like them. But it wasn't like I was trying to be them. It's just that's what I heard. And so that's just what you do. You just sound like what you been listening to," she says. A year or so after auditioning for Ariel, she got the call that she'd won the role. "I completely forgot that I had auditioned," she says. Back then, voiceover work wasn't very glamorous and big celebrities wouldn't consider it.

"It wasn't a good job. Doing voiceovers was what you would do when your career was on the back half, when it was tanking," says Benson. She thought Ariel would be just another notch on her resume. It was not. Propelled by such Alan Menken songs as "Under the Sea" and "Kiss the Girl," the film won two Grammys and earned three Acad-

Associated Press

emy Award nominations. It was critically acclaimed, with Roger Ebert calling it a "jolly and inventive animated fantasy," and would go to earn \$211 million worldwide. Parents of children with learning disabilities have told Benson their child's first words were from the film.

A live-action remake is in the works, featuring new songs by Lin-Manuel Miranda, who created "Hamilton." He loved the 1989 animated film so much its partly the reason he named his first child Sebastian — the mermaid's crab friend.

It was the kind of hit that Clements and his animators at Disney had long been hoping for. He had started at Disney in 1974 and was part of a new generation of artists trying to change the notion that animation was just for kids.

Clements had pitched a two-page treatment of the musical to then-studio head Michael Eisner and was given the green light. For Clements and his partner, John Musker, the stakes were high: It was the first fairy tale Disney had done for some three decades.

"There was a feeling — all through 'Little Mermaid' — that this film had potential to be the film that could break through and work the way we were all hungry for and hoping for," recalls Clements, who went on to co-direct "Aladdin" and "Hercules." □

Igor Levit not content to be heard only through piano

By RONALD BLUM
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Igor Levit arrived at John F. Kennedy International Airport's Terminal 1 ahead of his first concert at Carnegie Hall's main Stern Auditorium. It was the last day of February and his entry didn't go smoothly.

"It was actually four hours," he recalled. "There were 900 people standing in the line — approximately 900 people — it was packed to the stairs, to the escalator, and they literally had one window open. Nothing was working, nothing. There were no announcements made. There were kids. There were old people. It was just a disaster."

Winner of last year's Gilmore Artist Award, given quadrennially to a pianist along with a \$300,000 prize, Levit is among the most probing young artists in classical music. His website describes him as "Citizen. European. Pianist."

Before a recital of Beethoven piano sonatas at Brussels' Palais des Beaux-Arts in November 2016, on the morning after the U.S. elected Donald Trump president, he addressed the audience and said: "Today is a dark day, yesterday was a dark night. Yesterday the greatest economic power in the world has freely elected a bigot, an opportunist, an angry and dangerous man as their new president, as their commander in chief." He criticized Brexit, the French far right and German neofascists, then told the crowd: "The time of staying in my comfort zone is over. As long as I have a voice, as long as I am able to raise my voice, I will not let these aggressive people destroy my society, my world." When he played Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 for the First Night of the Proms at London's Royal Albert Hall in July 2017, he wore a European Union pin on the left lapel of his tailcoat and for an encore he played Liszt's transcription of the "Ode to Joy" from Beethoven's



This March 5, 2019 photo released by Carnegie Hall shows pianist Igor Levit performing with the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra at Carnegie Hall in New York.

Ninth Symphony — the EU anthem.

This is not an artist content to speak only through his Steinway. He is fluent in English, German and Russian, and he uses Twitter to expound his views. He has become more reticent about engaging on the web.

"Twitter is not a debate platform. I used to think it is," he said on the morning of his Carnegie concert, a Beethoven third concerto with the Vienna Philharmonic. "But I kind of more and more feel what used to be this phenomenally light, fantastic platform, which I really, really love became undisputedly an angry, schizophrenic bad place."

This was four days before his 32nd birthday. His latest recording, "Life," a two-disc set released by Sony last October, is a tribute to his friend Hannes Malte Mahler, a German performance artist who died in a bicycle accident in July 2016. Among the music is Frederic Rzewski's "A Mensch," Liszt's transcriptions from Wagner's "Parsifal" and "Tristan und Isolde," and Bill Evans' jazz work "Peace Piece." Levit's idea was to start with darkness, end with brightness

and cap the recording with the Evans' composition as an "amen."

"There's literally nothing that makes me feel better about it," Levit said. "I won't lie to anyone and pretend to be this arty guy who says that music helps. No. Nothing really helps. I don't think about it daily now, but whenever I think about him, it's as it was on

day one."

Born in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia, Levit moved with his family to Hanover, Germany, when he was 8 and then to Berlin three years ago. His Beethoven is in demand as the 250th anniversary of the composer's birth approaches in 2020.

Chris Roberts, a Gilmore artists committee member, recalled hearing Levit for

the first time at a recital in Princeton, New Jersey, in February 2016, watching from an upper level and looking down as if from a drone. Prokofiev's Piano Sonata No. 7 got his attention.

"The music was compelling. It was unusual. It was powerful in a technical and in an emotional way," Roberts said. "I think I wrote this in my review to the group, it was like an octopus with all these tentacles. It was like he had eight arms and not two. It was like synchronized swimming. It was like ballet and pianism combined in a way."

Liz Ostrow, a recording producer also on the Gilmore committee, was especially impressed by a performance of Bach's Goldberg Variations at the Park Avenue Armory in December 2015, staged by Marina Abramovic with a piano on a moving platform.

"He's true to the intent of the score and then he finds an ability to say things that are his own within that," she said. "He's able to make his own statement within the confines of the music that was written and that takes intelligence and thoughtfulness and technique." □

Associated Press

'The Last Act' is a compelling thriller

By JEFF AYERS
Associated Press

"The Last Act: a Novel" (Dutton), by Brad Parks
Tommy Jump has worked in theater for a while, but with a fiancée who is pregnant, he realizes that he has to get a real job to generate a steady income. A friend Tommy hasn't seen in years approaches him with a lucrative job offer. Now working for the FBI, his friend offers him a lot of money to take on an alias and a six-month sentence in a minimum security prison. The FBI wants information from a banker who is an inmate there, and they want Jump to become friendly with him and learn where he is hiding incriminating



This cover image released by Dutton shows "The Last Act," a novel by Brad Parks.

Associated Press

documents that are tied to a deadly Mexican cartel. Jump discusses it with his fiancée, and since the money would be a great

way to start his new life, he agrees to the deal.

His stint starts off badly, and it gets worse as he learns that his mission is harder than he imagined, and the information he's trying to get is also wanted by people willing to kill to get it.

Parks takes on the worlds of white collar crime, bank fraud and the drug war in "The Last Act." The heroes and villains shine, and the writing makes the narrative believable and intense.

This story is definitely not the author's last act, and it solidifies the prestige and accolades Parks' has achieved. Prepare to be surprised and astonished. □

Doping in cards? Bridge ban fuels backlash to Olympic link

By JOHN LEICESTER
Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — When the top-ranked bridge player tested positive for a steroid that Lance Armstrong also used to cheat at the Tour de France, it was easy to snigger. Juicing in cards? Ha! But within the card game recognized as a sport by the International Olympic Committee, fans and players seethed.

Whereas the eventual unmasking of Armstrong as a cycling swindler was widely hailed as a resounding victory for sports' fight against doping, critics in bridge saw the positive drug test for Geir Helgemo as a black mark for the anti-doping system and proof that it shouldn't be applied uniformly across sports.

"People think it's wrong," Boye Brogeland, a bridge professional who won two world championships with Helgemo, said of the top-ranked player's test for the steroid testosterone and infertility drug clomifene.

"Nobody thinks he took this to get an edge at bridge," Brogeland said in a phone interview.

Even the governing World Bridge Federation that punished 49-year-old Helgemo last month by banning the Norwegian for one year from lucrative professional competitions says most of the drugs and doping methods that are prohibited in bridge because the game has signed up to World Anti-Doping Agency rules don't, in fact, make bridge players better.

Testosterone and clomifene, both found in the



In this Aug. 21, 2018 file photo, spectators watch bridge match on a screen at the 18th Asian Games in Jakarta, Indonesia.

sample Helgemo provided last Sept. 29 at a World Bridge Series tournament in Orlando, Florida, are among the groups of substances that the WBF says in its anti-doping handbook for players are "not expected to affect performance in bridge."

Yet the WBF prohibits and tests sporadically for them anyway, not because of any suspicion that their use is rife in the game but because that is the price the federation must pay to come under the Olympic umbrella. Accepting the WADA code and the jurisdiction of sports' highest tribunal, the Court of Arbitration for Sport, are conditions for recognition by the IOC. IOC recognition, in turn, helps secure status and funding for bridge as it fights to stay relevant in

the videogame era. It also allows WBF executives to cling to the so-far fruitless ambition of one day seeing bridge played at the Olympic Games.

On bridge forums, Helgemo's case has provoked vigorous debate and a backlash, with critics questioning bridge's adherence to WADA rules and its Olympic affiliation. For them, further proof that being part of the IOC system does more harm than good to bridge was a CAS ruling last year that dealt a blow to the game's efforts to weed out cheating at cards. The Swiss court overturned five-year bans that bridge authorities had handed down for cheating to top players Fulvio Fantoni and Claudio Nunes. The CAS didn't completely absolve the pair but ruled that the Euro-

pean Bridge League failed to prove that the players used a prearranged code during games to secretly tip each other off about their hands.

"The integrity of the game is lost because we are trying to get into Olympics," Brogeland says. "The price is just too high. You cannot actually take the real cheats out of the game because of the Olympics, and now you actually take people out of the game who are not cheats."

Helgemo's case also reflects badly on the global anti-doping system, because it highlighted how unevenly WADA rules are applied across sports. Unlike the vast majority of sports, which test athletes both when they're competing and when they're not, the bridge federation

only tests players at major competitions.

And the WBF's in-competition testing is extremely limited: Just 11 tests in total in 2017, the most recent year for which figures are available, and 14 in 2016.

"We simply don't have the people to manage," says Jaap Stomphorst, who heads a WBF anti-doping sub-committee. "At major competitions we test around 10-12 players, that's all."

That Helgemo escaped with a one-year ban also underscored how anti-doping punishments are unevenly applied across sports. He appears to have been leniently treated in comparison with athletes in active sports. The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, for example, last year handed a 3-year ban to an amateur cyclist, Dylan Lima, only for testosterone and 1-year bans only for clomifene to two MMA fighters. For performance enhancers like testosterone, the WADA code calls for four-year bans when athletes fail to prove that they didn't intentionally dope.

David Harris, the WBF counsel who prosecuted Helgemo's case before a federation disciplinary panel, says the player "was unable to give a definitive explanation" of how testosterone and clomifene entered his body. Helgemo first suggested that he may have taken pills meant for his girlfriend before later blaming food supplements given to him by a friend, Harris said in a phone interview. "The panel probably erred on the side of leniency," he said. "They took into account the whole circumstances relating to the situation and came up with a decision that one year was the appropriate period of suspension."

Helgemo didn't respond to Associated Press efforts to reach him by email and text message. Harris said the Norwegian is currently serving a six-month prison sentence for tax offenses in Norway that is unconnected to his doping ban. □



In this Tuesday Sept. 22, 2015 file picture, competitors play bridge at the Acol Bridge Club in West Hampstead, London.

Associated Press



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